

THE
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 416.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1853.

[PRICE 6d.]



TEMPERANCE LINE of
PACKETS from LONDON to AUSTRALIA—
For ADELAIDE, GEELONG, and MELBOURNE,
with guarantee to land passengers and cargo, the new
vessel, LUCONIA, lying in the East India Docks; to sail
November the 18th. This very superior vessel has unrivalled ad-
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ample width of beam. The ventilation is made most complete by
side-ports, wind-sails, and other appliances. The shower-baths
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duly qualified surgeon is engaged. Divine service will be con-
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master will instruct the young children. A library of 200
volumes will be supplied for the passengers' use. Price for
single men and families, £21 per adult. For Freight or Passage
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PACKETS from LONDON to AUSTRALIA,
with guarantee to land passengers and their luggage.
—For PORT PHILLIP and SYDNEY, the splendid,
new, British-built ship GRAHAM, 668 tons register, A 1 13 years;
lying in the East India Docks, to sail positively Nov. 7. The
attention of passengers is requested to the admirable arrange-
ments of this vessel. This ship has the unusual number of five
hatchways, and, therefore, great advantages for securing light
and ventilation. The cabins will be large and commodious, baths
and washhouses will be erected on decks, and a library of 200
volumes will be supplied for the passengers' use. Carries a
minister and a surgeon. Price for single men or for families,
£21 per adult.—For Freight or Passage apply to GRIFFITHS,
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W. H. HAWSON, Draper, Staines, Middlesex, has a
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YOUTH, as an Apprentice to the general Drapery
Business. Also, a good Milliner—one who can make herself
useful behind the counter. Dissenters will be preferred.—Address,
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TOOLS of first-rate quality, at BLIGH'S, facing White-
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respectable Family, a Furnished Drawing and Bed-room;
if for one person, 16s. a week, for two, £1 1s. An extra Bed-
room, if required.—A. B., Post-office, Marsh-lane, Tottenham.

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A exceedingly Cheap (situate on the Outskirts of London),
together with the Organ, Fixtures, &c. Immediate possession
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FUTVOYE and Co., 154, Regent-street,
Jeveliers, Dressing-case makers, &c., desire the inspection
of the nobility, gentry, and public to their new and elegant
STOCK, comprising every novelty for use and ornament. Gold
watches, four holes jewelled, horizontal escapement, warranted,
£4 4s.; silver watches, £2 10s.; solid gold chains, of their own
manufacture, sold at per ounce, and the fashion only charged.
The gold in the chains, and in all articles of jewellery, guaranteed
and repurchased at the price charged. Splendid new assortment
of bracelets, rings, &c., designed expressly for them by native
and foreign artists. Every description of plate or jewellery pur-
chased for cash, or taken in exchange.

AT a MEETING of SUBSCRIBERS to
the "NONCONFORMIST" residing in Leicester, held at
Mr. Daw's Committee Rooms, October 31, 1853, Mr. SAMUEL
BAINES in the Chair,

It was moved by Mr. WM. BAINES, seconded by Mr. JOSEPH
SWAINE, and carried unanimously:—

"That after mature deliberation, this meeting desires to express
its conviction, that it will be highly inexpedient and detrimental
to the interests of the *Nonconformist* if the proposed change of
name be carried into effect; inexpedient, inasmuch as the paper
has maintained a commanding position under its present name, and,
we doubt not, will continue to advance; detrimental, because it
will be considered by many an indication of weakness, and, at the
same time, alienate the attachment of some of its earliest and
best friends, who have hitherto looked up to it as the only expo-
nent of their principles."

Moved by Mr. CHAMBERS, seconded by Mr. R. KEMP, and
carried unanimously:—

"That this meeting would express its unwavering confidence
in Edward Miall, M.P., the Editor; at the same time, would
earnestly entreat him to decide against the suggested alteration."

ALBION TEMPERANCE HOTEL,
James-square,
EDINBURGH.

PHILP'S.—A Newly-Furnished, large,
First Class Family and Commercial House, immediately
behind the Register Office, quiet and airy.

TARIFF OF CHARGES:

Bed, 1s. 6d.; Breakfast, 1s. 6d.; Dinner, 2s.; Tea, 1s. 3d.
Servants, 1s. per day.

COCKERELL & CO'S COALS, price, see *Times*.

COALS, 30s. Best.—R. S. DIXON and
SON having Colliers which lower their masts and deliver
alongside their Wharf, they SUPPLY the BEST COALS direct
from the Ship.—Providence Wharf, Belvidere-road, Lambeth.

EVERY MAN HIS OWN BREWER;
or, Practical Instructions by which any man can brew his
own Beer of a Strength and Flavour equal to the best London
Porter, at an expense of 4d. per Gallon, and Stout, at 5d. per Gallon.
No skill or brewing utensils required. Sent free, on receipt of
Twenty-four Postage-stamps, by Mr. CLARKSON, many years
Practical private Brewer, No. 9, Avery-row, Lower Grosvenor-
street, London.

SURREY MISSION.—The
AUTUMNAL MEETING will be held on TUESDAY, No-
vember 8, 1853.

The SERMON will be preached in the Morning, at Eleven o'clock,
by the Rev. GEORGE SMITH, of Poplar, at UNION CHAPEL,
Brixton-hill; and

The PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the Evening, at SALEM
CHAPEL, Park-road, Brixton-hill. The Chair to be taken at
Half-past Six, by JOHN BROWN, Esq.

LONDON TEMPERANCE LEAGUE.

A SPECIAL MEETING of the Members and Friends will
be held in the Large Room of the WHITTINGTON CLUB,
Arundel-street, Strand, on MONDAY EVENING, November 7th,
1853, for the Purpose of receiving JOHN CASSELL, Esq., and
Dr. F. R. LEE, who will furnish interesting particulars in con-
nexion with their recent visit to the World's Temperance Con-
vention, New York. Doors will be opened at Seven o'clock, and the
Chair taken at Half-past Seven. Admission Free.

INDEPENDENT CHURCH,
GRAFTON-STREET, FITZROY-ROAD.—On SUNDAY
EVENINGS, November 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th, Mr. LYNCH
will preach SERMONS ON THE STORY OF INQUIRY.

1. Inquirer begins his inquiries. He is thought an Infidel, and
is grieved and angry.
2. Inquirer makes a discovery, and finds it a mistake. He falls
into much perplexity.
3. Inquirer feels lonely and lost. He is unexpectedly rescued.
4. Inquirer entering anew on Social Christian Life, encounters
a new temptation. He resists it, and makes progress.
Service commences at half-past 6.

HOMERTON COLLEGE:—The

Training Institution of the Congregational Board of Edu-
cation.—THE NEXT SESSION will commence January 2, 1854.
Young Men between the ages of 18 and 30, and Young Women
between the ages of 17 and 25, of decided piety, desirous of
devoting themselves to the work of Voluntary Education in
Primary Schools, wishing to become Candidates, and Local Com-
mittees requiring Teachers, may obtain the requisite information
by application to the Principal, Rev. W. J. UNWIN, M.A.

WILLIAM RUTT, Secretary.

The College, Homerton, October 25, 1853.

TONIC SOL-FA ASSOCIATION.—

The SECOND CHORAL MEETING, for the Benefit of
this Association, will be held in FINCHBURY CHAPEL, on the
Evening of FRIDAY, November 4th, commencing at half-past
Seven o'clock, and closing at Nine.

The Choir of 150 Children, who have taken certificates of
simple sight singing, will sing the pieces which several hundred
persons were shut out from hearing last week, the chapel being
filled before they came.

Books of Words will be sold at the Doors.
Admission, Sixpence each.

FREE CHRISTIAN CHURCH of

KENTISH and CAMDEN TOWNS.—Pastor, the Rev.
WILLIAM FORSTER. In introducing this important religious
movement to public notice, the Committee beg to state the prin-
ciples on which it is based, which are:—

The Holy Scripture and not Human Creeds the only standard
of Christian belief;
The Duty of all Men to inquire for themselves into Religious
Truth;

Their individual irresponsibility to each other for the conclu-
sions they may reach; and
Diversity of opinion no bar to Church fellowship.

It is intended, as soon as the funds can be raised to erect a
convenient Church on ground already secured, situated between
the two neighbourhoods, which comprise a population of tens of
thousands of people.

In the meantime, the Religious Services are conducted in the
Temporary Church, Hawley-crescent, Camden Town.

Subscriptions and Donations may be paid to the account of the
Treasurer, at Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co.'s, Bankers, Lombard-
street; to Messrs. Rogers, Olding, and Co., Bankers, Clement-
s'-lane, Lombard-street; to the Rev. William Forster, 11,
Torrington-terrace, Kentish Town; to Robert Squirrell, Esq.,
Treasurer, 36, Camden-square; or to the Hon. Sec., Mr. John
Yarnold, 25, Fitzroy-terrace, Kentish Town.

ALBERT COCKSHAW, having entered
into Partnership with his Son as GENERAL PRINTERS,
very respectfully solicits the favours of his Friends and the
Public, assured that the utmost practicable accuracy and prompti-
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A. and S. C. are prepared to undertake any and every kind of
PRINTING, from a Newspaper to an Address Card.
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REV. B. H. COOPER, B.A., removed to
8, Belitha-terrace, Barnsbury, prepares Young Gentlemen
for the London University. Apply as above.

THE THIRD TRIENNIAL

CONFERENCE of the BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH
ASSOCIATION will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, Bishops-
gate-street, TO-MORROW and FRIDAY, November 3 and 4.

The sittings will commence on Thursday at half-past Ten
o'clock, and at Six o'clock; and on Friday at Ten

On FRIDAY Evening A SOIREE will take place at the
WHITTINGTON CLUB, Arundel-street, Strand, at SIX o'clock.

Delegates only will be entitled to sit in the Conference, but
cards of admission to the galleries will be furnished to subscribers,
on application being made to the Secretary.

Tickets of Admission to the Soirée, at 1s. 6d. each, to be had at
the Offices only, not later than to-morrow.

Appointments of delegates not yet notified to the Committee,
must be communicated to them immediately.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.

Offices, 41, Ludgate-hill.

LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—

CHINA.

At a Quarterly Meeting of Town and Country Directors of the
London Missionary Society, held at the MISSION HOUSE,
Tuesday, October 11th, 1853, convened especially to consider the
present state and prospects of China in relation to Christian
Missions.

It was unanimously Resolved:—

1. That the Statement now read, containing a brief review of
the Society's operations in China, be extensively published
forthwith.

2. That the present state and prospects of China demand from
the friends of the London Missionary Society the most energetic
measures, with a view of adding at least Ten New Labourers to
the present number of its Missionaries in that Empire.

3. That it be referred to a Special Committee to consider and
adopt the most vigorous and expedient measures for raising the
Funds necessary for carrying into effect the preceding Reso-
lutions.

Signed on behalf of the Directors,

CULLING EARDLEY EARDLEY, Treasurer.
ARTHUR TIDMAN,
EBENEZER PROUT, } Secretaries.

Mission House, Blomfield-street,
October 15th, 1853.

SALE by AUCTION of **ROBERTS'**

"HOLY-LAND."—SOUTHGATE and BARRETT beg to
announce that they have received instructions to SELL by
AUCTION, at their Rooms, 22, FLEET-STREET, LONDON,
during the MONTH of DECEMBER, the entire remaining Copies
of "ROBERTS' HOLY LAND, EGYPT, NUBIA, SYRIA,
IDUMEA, and ARABIA."

The Work is complete in Forty Parts, and was originally pub-
lished by Mr. Alderman MOON (who has retired from business)
at Forty-one Guineas, under which price it has never yet been
sold.

The DRAWINGS were made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS,
R.A., and have been executed in the first style of Lithography by
M. LOUIS HAGHE. They are accompanied by HISTORICAL
and DESCRIPTIVE Letter-press, written by the Rev. Dr.
CROLY.

The ARTIST, whose fame has mainly resulted from pictures of
this class, entered into the work with a deep and earnest love of
his great theme. The subjects embrace every variety. Among
the 250 Prints of which the Work is composed, are found Views of
JERUSALEM, the HOLY SEPULCHRE, the MOUNT OF
OLIVES, BETHLEHEM, the SEA of TIBERIAS, LEBANON,
TYRE, and other places of interest in the HOLY LAND; of the
RUINS of PETRA, MOUNT SINAI, &c., in IDUMEA; and in
EGYPT and NUBIA, the reader is presented with the most faith-
ful illustrations of their celebrated antiquities. The entire series
form a work of rare attraction, not only in the point of art, but
affording also a rich fund of enjoyment and instruction to all who
regard these spots as hallowed with the scenes and recollections
of the past. The Artist has depicted the "EAST" as it is TO-DAY.
These countries are becoming anew the centre of EUROPEAN
interest and anxiety, from the position of the "Eastern Question,"
and the Work about to be offered for sale comprises undoubtedly
the best, and, indeed, the only, complete series of pictorial illus-
trations relating to those localities which have ever been the
subjects of dispute, and even now threaten to be the seat of war.

SOUTHGATE and BARRETT beg, also, to call PARTICULAR
ATTENTION to the circumstance, that the copies which will be
included in the forthcoming Sale will be the LAST that can ever
be obtained, as the DRAWINGS from which the impressions have
been taken will all be EFFACED FROM THE STONES in the
Rooms, and during the Progress of the Sale, thereby furnishing
the only sure guarantee that no inferior impressions can ever be
issued, and securing to the purchasers at the sale the rarity and
enhanced value of the present copies.

It is also further announced that an entire SET of this beautiful
work is now on view at the OFFICES of Messrs. DAY and SON,
Lithographers to the Queen, 17, GATE-STREET, LINCOLN'S-
INN-FIELDS, LONDON; and that a DESCRIPTIVE LIST of
the PLATES (which will give Free Admission to visitors) may
be obtained of SOUTHGATE and BARRETT, at their Temporary
Auction-rooms, 393, STRAND, LONDON, who will be happy to
furnish any further information that may be required.

In conclusion, SOUTHGATE and BARRETT feel it a duty to
urge their friends and the public not to lose the present and
ONLY opportunity of obtaining the above important and inter-
esting work at a reduced price.

Catalogues of the Sale (when ready) will be forwarded by post,
on the receipt of Six Postage Stamps.

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	Gold Cases and Dials.	Silver Cases.
Watches of the Horizontal make, jewelled in four holes, main-taining power, 1st size.....	£ 5 10 0	£ 2 18 0
Ditto, 2nd size.....	7 10 0	3 3 0
Ditto, 3rd size.....	8 10 0	3 10 0
Patent lever movements, detached escapements, jewelled in four or six holes, 2nd size.....	9 9 0	3 18 0
Ditto, with the flat, fashionable style, with the most highly-finished movements, jewelled in ten extra holes, 3rd size.....	14 14 0	5 18 0

A written warranty for accurate performance is given with every watch, and a twelvemonth's trial allowed. A very extensive and splendid assortment of fine gold neck-chains; charged according to the weight of sovereigns.

A pamphlet containing a list of the prices of the various articles in gold and silver, may be had gratis.—Address,

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By order of the Committee,

ALGERNON WELLS, Secretary.

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WINEs are sold by JOHN WHITE, at per gallon or per dozen at the option of purchasers, who are entreated either to call and taste these exquisite wines, or favour him with a sample order selected from the subjoined list. CLARETS: Margaux, an inimitable wine, 38s. per dozen case; Dinner ditto, 26s.; Champagne, 42s.; Hock and Moselle, still or sparkling 42s. to 48s.; Duff Gordons Sherries, 36s.; Dinner ditto, 26s.; Ports from the wood, 28s. to 32s.; Crusted, 36s. to 42s.; unequaled, 48s. to 54s. All delivered carriage free to the railway stations, or within five miles of the City. Terms, cash. Remember the address is JOHN WHITE, 31, Dowgate-hill, Cannon-street, City.

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"We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation, and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in thus recommending."—Church and State Gazette.

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A descriptive circular may be had by post, and the Truss (which cannot fall to fit) can be forwarded by post, on sending the circumference of the body two inches below the hips, to the Manufacturer.

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Every description of Riding Belts, Elastic Stockings, Spinal Corsets Supporters, and Suspensors, on new and approved principles, with every kind of Surgical Bandages.

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FIVE GUINEAS.—Mr. HALSE, the Medical Galvanist, of 29, BRUNSWICK-SQUARE, LONDON, informs his friends that his FIVE GUINEA APPARATUSes are now ready.

Send two postage-stamps for his Pamphlet on Medical Galvanism.

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T. SHORT, Secretary.

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MELTERS, CANDLE MANUFACTURERS, OIL and ITALIAN WAREHOUSEMEN, 89 and 90, LEATHER-LANE, HOLBORN, beg to suggest to their numerous friends and others who are about to lay in their Winter's stock, that every article supplied at their Establishment is of first-rate quality, and charged at the lowest remunerative price.

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—Buyers of the above are requested, before finally deciding, to visit WILLIAM S. BURTON'S SHOW-ROOMS, 39, Oxford-street (corner of Newman-street), Nos. 1 and 2, Newman-street, and Perry's-place. They are the largest in the world, and contain such an assortment of FENDERS, STOVES, RANGES, FIRE IRONS, and GENERAL IRONMONGERY, as cannot be approached elsewhere, either for variety, novelty, beauty of design, or exquisiteness of workmanship. Bright Stoves, with bronzed ornaments and two sets of bars, £2 14s. to £5 10s.; ditto, with ornolu ornaments and two sets of bars, £5 10s. to £12 12s.; Bronzed Fenders complete, with standards, from 7s. to £3; Steel Fenders, from £2 15s. to £6; ditto, with rich ornolu ornament, from £2 15s. to £7 7s.; Fire-irons, from 1s. 9d. the set to £4 4s. Sylvester, and all other Patent Stoves, with radiating hearth-plates; all which he is enabled to sell at these very reduced charges—

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DISHES in every material, in great variety, and of the newest and most recherche patterns. Tin Dish-cover, 6s the set of six; Block-tin, 11s. 6d. to 25s. the set of six; elegant modern patterns, 3s. to 53s. the set; Britannia Metal, with or without Silver Plated Handles, 68s. to 102s. the set; Sheffield Plated, £10 to £16 10s. the set; Block-tin Hot-water Dishes, with wells for gravy, 11s. to 25s.; Britannia Metal, 20s. to 72s. Sheffield Plated, full size, £9 10s.

GAS CHANDELIERS and BRACKETS.—

The increased and increasing use of gas in private houses has induced WILLIAM S. BURTON to collect from all the various manufacturers all that is new and choice in Brackets, Pendants, and Chandeliers, adapted to offices, passages, and dwelling-rooms, as well as to have some designed expressly for him; these are now ON SHOW at one of his TEN LARGE ROOMS, and present, for novelty, variety, and purity of taste, an unequalled assortment. They are marked in plain figures, at prices proportionate to those which have tended to make his Ironmongery Establishment the largest and most remarkable in the kingdom—viz., from 12s. 6d. (two-light) to 16 guineas.

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The largest, as well as the choicest, assortment in existence of PALMER'S MAGNUM and other LAMPS, CAMPBINE, ARGAND, SOLAR, and MODERATEUR LAMPS, with all the latest improvements, and of the newest and most recherche patterns, in ornolu, Bohemian, and plain glass, or papier maché, is at WILLIAM S. BURTON'S, and they are arranged in one large room, so that the patterns, sizes, and sorts can be instantly selected.

PALMER'S CANDLES, 8½d. a pound. Palmer's Patent Candles, all marked "Palmer."

Single or double wicks.....	8½d. per pound.
Mid. size, 3 wicks.....	9d. ditto.
Magnums, 3 or 4 wicks.....	9½d. ditto.
English Patent Campbine, in sealed cans..	6s. per gallon.
Best Colza Oil.....	4s. ditto.

WILLIAM S. BURTON has Ten large Show-rooms (all communicating), exclusive of the shop, devoted solely to the show of General Furnishing Ironmongery (including Cutlery, Nickel Silver, Plated and Japanned Wares, Iron and Brass Bedsteads), so arranged and classified that purchasers may easily and at once make their selections.

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THE higher Mathematical Classes receive the benefit of the superintendence and lectures of the REV. PROFESSOR NEWTH, M.A.,

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TO those under a course of Sarsaparilla this COCOA will be found an excellent beverage, instead of tea or coffee (which decidedly excite the nervous system, and prevent medicine, particularly Sarsaparilla, from having its desired effect). Invalids with weak stomachs will receive more benefit from this pure Cocoa than any preparation, being made with true Cocoa Nibs, combined with pure Sarsaparilla, and rendered more palatable.

In Packets, at 1s. 6d. per lb., or 3 lbs. for 4s.

To prevent fraud, HENRY HIDES has caused his name to be put upon each packet, and without which none is genuine, and to imitate which is felony.

Sold by all respectable Medicine Vendors in the United Kingdom, and by the Proprietor, at his LABORATORY, 10, HUNGERFORD-STREET, STRAND, LONDON

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Orders received for the erection of Public, Church, or Turret Clocks, of any size or complication, in any part of the Kingdom.

PUBLIC NOTICE is invited to the character of the Stock at the well-known Manufactory. The wholesale trade is now declined, to allow of undivided attention to the Retail friends of the Establishment, who will henceforth be supplied at the trade prices, careful regard being observed in all transactions, to the high and long-maintained reputation of the house.

Best Work Only—Trade Prices—Delivered Free.

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TO INVALIDS.—PUBLIC ATTENTION

having been directed by the Medical Journals to the Extensive Adulterations and Exorbitant Charges for Medicines of inferior Quality, WILLIAM T. COOPER informs Invalids that the Purest Chemicals and the Finest Drugs are alone used at his DISPENSING ESTABLISHMENT, 26, OXFORD-STREET. No Apprentices are employed; competent Assistants only are engaged. The preparation of Prescriptions is carried on entirely distinct from the Retail Business. The Prices are invariably moderate. Medicines are despatched immediately they are Prepared, without any Additional Charge, to St. John's Wood, Bayswater, Notting-hill, Fulham, Pimlico, Camberwell, City, Islington, Camden-town, Kentish-town, and all intermediate distances.

PRESCRIPTIONS forwarded by Post will receive immediate attention.

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CAUTION TO MOTHERS.

MRS. JOHNSON'S AMERICAN SOOTHING SYRUP.—This efficacious Remedy has been in general use for upwards of Thirty Years, and has preserved numerous Children when suffering from Convulsions arising from painful Dentition. As soon as the Syrup is rubbed on the Gums the Child will be relieved, the Gums cooled, and the Inflammation reduced. It is as innocent as efficacious, tending to produce the Teeth with ease; and so pleasant, that no Child will refuse to let its Gums be rubbed with it. Parents should be very particular to ask for JOHNSON'S AMERICAN SOOTHING SYRUP, and to notice that the Names of BARCLAY and SONS, 95, FARRINGDON-STREET, London (to whom Mrs. Johnson has sold the recipe), are on the Stamp affixed to each Bottle. Price 2s. 9d. per bottle.

NATIONAL FREEHOLD-LAND SOCIETY.

WEEKLY REPORT, October 29, 1853.

	Last Totals.	During the Week.	Present Totals.
Cash received.	£603,630 1 3	£8,855 13 8	£612,485 14 11
Shares issued.	65,846	798	66,644

VALID SHARES DRAWN DURING THE WEEK.

50,696, 33,002, 63,094, 64,060, 58,433, *13,526 to *13,530, 37,761, 21,448, 41,950, 64,989, 18,345, 5,197, 44,308, 86,589, 60,772, 40,442, 9,709, 63,088, 60,625, 44,114, 59,452, 48,418, 65,663, 21,268, 2,949, 61,885, 55,289, 18,517, 48,136, 64,554, 42,718, *45,925, *45,936, 49,952, 42,438, 39,491, 38,911, 42,175, 59,616, 51,358, 55,264, 15,125, 57,263, 36,455, 16,133, 54,624, 50,700, 87,988, 43,154, 65,777.

* Grouped.

The shares numbered 62,684, 53,850, 49,459, 35,423, 4,013, 28,461, 3,093, 62,440, 54,074, 39,164, 46,993, 43,036, 52,478, 29,616, 45,088, 38,929, 4,161, 50,724, 31,501, and 12,492, were also drawn, but as the subscriptions thereon were in arrear, the holders thereof have lost the benefit of this drawing. Copies of the Prospectus, Rules, and last Annual Report, may be obtained at the Office, or by post, gratis.

W. E. WHITTINGHAM, Secretary.

14, Moorgate-street.

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 416.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1853.

[PRICE 6d.]

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

OUR DECISION ON THE PROPOSED CHANGE OF NAME.

WE have now given our readers, as we promised, a full opportunity of expressing their judgment on the question mooted by us some weeks ago, Whether or not a change in the name of this journal would probably conduce to its larger usefulness. We have read with attention, and, we hope, with candour, every line addressed to us on this subject. We have conscientiously endeavoured to collect the sense of the majority of our friends, in pursuance of our purpose, declared at the outset, of abiding by it, whatever it might be. We have satisfied ourselves—We have arrived at our decision—We proceed to announce it.

Before doing so, however, we cannot refrain from returning our numerous correspondents our heartfelt thanks, for the general tone of kindness and confidence which has pervaded their communications. With very few exceptions—and those, perhaps, easily accounted for—the proposal submitted by us to the decision of our readers has been dealt with in entire accordance with the spirit which prompted our own mind in venturing to broach it. Our friends have given us credit for honest motives in placing this question unreservedly before them. They have evinced a generous faith in our character highly gratifying to us. Most of them have displayed a readiness to sacrifice individual preferences for the sake of public ends, which make us not a little proud of our supporters. Indeed, if ever we had felt tempted to swerve a hair's breadth from the object to which we have solemnly consecrated our efforts, the spirit of the correspondence which has been forwarded to us of late would have had power enough to exorcise the demon. We have been made to feel more deeply than ever our serious responsibility. So trusted as we have been and are, we can have no excuse for unfaithfulness.

Nevertheless, the fact of our having mooted this question requires a word or two of explanation, if not of self-defence.

A change of our name has been deprecated as indicative of a commercial spirit. Well, we never professed to be devoid of that spirit. All other things being equal, we would prefer a prosperous to a narrow state of finances. If, in addition to doing our work more effectually, we should also realize more by it, we really cannot aver that we should be thereby grieved. Whenever for the sake of pounds, shillings, and pence we shrink from uttering a truth needing to be uttered, or abandon a profession to which we are pledged, or attempt to accommodate a principle to the

taste of those who dislike it, or neglect a public interest which calls for urgent advocacy—when ever any such charge can be justly brought home to the *Nonconformist*, let the paper be despised, as it will deserve to be! But would it not be puerile to affect a pecuniary indifference to the prospect of more or fewer subscribers? We do not affect it. Why should we? Is there anything to be ashamed of in a commercial improvement, if it could be had without moral loss? Are any of our readers anti-commercial? Are those of them free from taint, who condemn the very appearance of it in us? We must not suffer ourselves to be hoodwinked and misled by words. Of course, the commercial aspect of the question was considered in connexion with those which are of a higher character—but considered, we hope, in due relation to more important matters.

We did not lay this proposition before our readers because we had grown ashamed of our name. It would seem to have suggested itself to some minds, that, in the atmosphere of Parliament, we may have found it an inconvenient badge of distinction, and that to spare our blushes we are anxious to put it off. We cannot pretend to have been under any such temptation. We have been subjected to no disadvantage that we are aware of in consequence of our connexion with the *Nonconformist*. We never heard a syllable, we never observed a gesture, we never noticed an expression of countenance, calculated to excite in us an emotion of shame on account of the designation of our paper—and if it had from the first been called the *London Mercury*, we could not have suffered less in that way than we have done. In the House of Commons, the petty persecution which is so common in lower spheres, is happily ignored—and the intercourse which is carried on there is too much that of thorough gentlemen to be sensibly affected by any peculiarities attaching to individual conviction or position. There is no company in the world in which a man may so easily stand by his honest professions without fear of impertinent remark. If ever we have been conscious of any feeling of confusion on account of the title of our journal, it has not been produced by association with the advanced, or, as some would describe them, the extreme opinions advocated therein, but by the vacillation, the inconsistencies, and the narrow-mindedness of some who are known to the world as Nonconformists, and whom we are erroneously supposed to represent. Our name, unfortunately, identifies us, in common estimation, with a class with whom we have little in common—and we have to bear their reproach.

"Courage, Sir!" is the kind exhortation of some of our friends. "You have fought your way to a commanding position under your present colours—don't quail with victory in sight." Well, but may it not have been an act of much higher moral courage, and of much larger self-sacrifice, to propose a change than to resist one? If a man's courage is to be measured by the amount and intensity of feeling which he is ready to bear and to subdue, then, surely, the exhortation would have been more appropriate if it had come from the other side. It is harder to determine upon a course which will damp the enthusiasm of friends, than to dare the utmost opposition of enemies. When, for the sake of his public principles, one consents to incur the suspicion of adherents, and to cloud for an indefinite interval an unsullied reputation, he does a bolder thing, and, even when mistaken in judgment, a more virtuous one, than he could have done by his refusal. A general may sometimes display more

magnanimity in ordering a retreat than an advance, and his movement may be the result of the noblest daring, simply because sure to expose him to the imputation of cowardice. We felt no need for courage to retain our name—we did in proposing to alter it.

We have been warned that an attempt to entrap the unwary, besides being certain of failure, would be an impeachment of our honesty. But must not candour confess that this is an incorrect description of our object? Our purpose was not to deceive, but to undeceive. Not to adopt, but to drop, a misleading title, was our honest intention. That the name by which this journal is now called, *does* suggest to almost all but our constant readers, a mistaken notion of its contents, is notorious. No change, it is true, would have conciliated rabid Churchmen—nor have met the objections of timorous Dissenters. But that range of observation must have been narrow indeed, which leads to the conclusion that the kingdom is divided into two great classes—men who hate Dissent, and men who love it. By the great majority of the people, the controversy between Churchmen and Dissenters is not cared for, is not thought of, because the true principles at issue are not known. From this large class of our fellow-countrymen—larger by far than the other two put together—we are excluded, not by reason of any settled aversion to our principles, but because our name is wrongly imagined to indicate certain religious and sectarian pretensions. They believe us to be what we are not—surely, the purest honesty might be displayed in coming before them under a title which would not prevent them from ascertaining what we are. If by wearing a coat of a certain cut, many men had agreed in mistaking us for a Roman Catholic priest, and had avoided us accordingly—a determination on our part to appear for the future in clothes of ordinary fashion, simply with the view of preventing false impressions, could not with justice be ascribed to a deliberate design to cajole the unwary.

But without noticing more in detail the objections which have been urged against our proposed change, perhaps, it will be satisfactory that we should set forth more perfectly than we have yet done our own view in consenting to place that proposal under the notice of our readers. This journal, then, was not originally established with a view to become a Dissenting organ—nor has it ever pretended to belong to any party, as such. It was started as the first step in a great and comprehensive design, the full realization of which will be reached only when Christianity, in all its forms, shall have been made self-subsistent, and shall have become emancipated from every trace of Erastian bondage. In the steady pursuit of this design we have naturally enough appealed to Nonconformists more than to any other class, inasmuch as we are attempting to work out their professed principles. We want their help. We are anxious that they should do honour to their professions. Our sympathies are with them, as are many, perhaps most, of our pleasantest recollections. But if it is imagined that we meant this journal to be at *their service*, or that we had *them* in contemplation when it made its first appearance, we can only say that our predominant purpose has been wholly misapprehended. We cannot charge ourselves with having consciously ministered to any such delusion. We have sacrificed Dissenters to Dissenting principles often enough to disabuse the dullest in regard to this point—and we now again declare that, from the first, we have fixedly looked upon certain changes in the relation of the State to reli-

gious bodies in this country as our chief end, and that the elevation or depression of this party or of that, has been regarded with interest by us merely as a means to that end.

The circumstances under which we were requested to consider the question which we have this day determined—circumstances highly honourable to the parties concerned—deeply impressed us with the idea that the enterprise upon which we are embarked, aided, for some years past, by Nonconformists mainly, is on the eve of becoming a truly national undertaking. We feel convinced, that the time is close at hand when a separation of Church and State will expand from a Nonconformist's into a people's question. We wished to hasten on that result. We were ready to take a position in which our own efforts and distinctiveness would be merged, and the cause we have at heart placed on a much broader basis. It would have required, as we intimated, no small sacrifice of feeling to part with the colours under which our gallant corps has been collected and led forward—but if, by unfurling another flag we could have evoked popular enthusiasm in its favour, we were quite willing to forget, and be forgotten. Still, we thought it justly due to our supporters that they should have a voice in the final settlement of so important a matter—and hence, in all good faith, we invited the freest communication to us of their thoughts and wishes. Had they generally, or by a large majority, concurred in our proposal, we should have prosecuted our one purpose with (as we think) greater facilities than we have ever before enjoyed. But we cannot conscientiously conclude that we are thus authorized by anything approaching to common consent. On the contrary, the predominant feeling, as we interpret it, is adverse to the change contemplated—and it becomes us, of course, to respect it, and to act upon it.

Independently, however, of what we consider due, on the score of justice, from us to our supporters, in a matter involving no serious principle, we confess we have been influenced in our decision by a regard, as usual, to our main objects. We cannot afford to set light by the honest enthusiasm of our friends, even when, as in the present instance, it takes, as we think, an unfortunate direction. Our best hope for the future arises out of their cheerful fidelity and devotedness. It is better that we should suffer disadvantage, than that they should be discouraged. Any serious diminution of mutual confidence would open the door to evils for which a considerable increase of our readers would be but a poor compensation. If in the name of this journal they recognise a rallying cry—if it is to them as the "certain sound" of a trumpet—if they have made it, and still use it as, a bond of brotherhood—if it possesses for them a charm to soothe, to stir, to inspirit, as events may require—if they have, in their too fond attachment, converted it into a token and presage of victory—it becomes a very serious question to our mind, whether we should be justified in abandoning it. What we might gain in surface, it seems but too probable that we should lose in depth—and, although heading a larger number of adherents, should exert over them a less potent influence than now. We have determined not to make the experiment. But we cannot regret that we proposed to make it.

It is possible, moreover, that when the new Reform Bill shall have been obtained, and the popular mind shall have turned to the consideration of ecclesiastical topics (as assuredly it will), even the name of the *Nonconformist* will cease to be an impediment in the way of our more extended usefulness. Its very distinctiveness may then be of use to it, and serve to guide inquirers to the source whence they may draw information and instruction on questions theretofore neglected by them. At any rate, let this be our hope—and, actuated as we can truly say we have been throughout to do the best for our principles, we will indulge the thought that events may prove our readers to have been wiser than we—and that the cause of free Christianity will eventually be more effectually subserved by our retention, than by our rejection, of our original title.

We have already exceeded convenient limits. It only remains, therefore, that we make this formal and final announcement—That this journal will henceforth, as heretofore, appear under the title of *THE NONCONFORMIST*.

OUR CHURCH-RATE RECORD.

In Kettering there is to be a final struggle for the maintenance of the obnoxious system of church-rates. Notwithstanding their late defeat, the churchwardens called a meeting of the ratepayers for last Monday, to grant a rate. The opponents of the rate were soon astir, taking steps to defeat the laying of such an imposition. On Monday a meeting of the leading Nonconformists was held, when an ample guarantee-fund was at once subscribed to conduct the opposition to the rate, and a stirring address to the inhabitants of the town issued, urging them to resist such proceedings by every means in their power. On Tuesday night a crowded public meeting was held in the Baptist chapel, to take the conduct of the churchwardens into consideration. One of the resolutions adopted calls "upon every ratepayer to arouse themselves—to act manfully and decidedly in the coming struggle—and for ever put an end to such proceedings in Kettering." The same evening a meeting of the church vestry was convened by circular in the National School, which was well attended, when it was resolved to use every means to secure the passing of the rate. On Monday, accordingly, the question was again tried, and ended in a decisive victory by the anti-rate party; the numbers at the close of the poll being—Against the rate, 291; for it, 191: majority, 101.

Barnardcastle (says the *Gateshead Observer*) has been in a perfect fever of excitement, over that old bone of contention, the church-rate. The poll commenced on Thursday, the 20th inst. At the close of Tuesday the Church party were forty behind. The church clock has been stopped; and on Sunday morning the bells were silent. Those proceedings—or, rather, no proceedings—on the part of the churchwardens, tended to make the rate still more unpopular with the public, as it was generally considered that they should at least have awaited the result of the poll ere they put the ratepayers, friends and foes of the impost alike, to inconvenience.

The parish of All Saints, Southampton, passed through the ordeal of a church-rate contest last week very triumphantly. "We have had this day" (Tuesday), says a correspondent, "in the parish of All Saints—the most aristocratic ward in the town—a most signal triumph over the supporters of church-rates. The question has never before been contested here—it always being supposed that the friends of church-rates were sufficiently numerous to swamp the Voluntaries; but we have happily found ourselves mistaken. The churchwardens having a short time since summoned seven Dissenters before the magistrates for non-payment of church-rates, a meeting was held, and a committee appointed, to inquire into the receipts and expenditure of the parish, and the mode of collecting the rates. Their report (which I enclose) was presented at a meeting held on Thursday last, the 20th inst., and carried by a large majority. Thereupon a poll was demanded, which took place yesterday and to-day; and to the great surprise of the pro-rate party, and ourselves as well, the following was the result:—For report, 424; against it, 378: majority, 46; while the majority of persons was not less than 150. On the close of the poll, a petition to Parliament for the total abolition of church-rates was carried in a crowded vestry by about 100 to 4. You will see by the report how this is virtually a question of rate or no rate; and the doom of church-rates may be regarded as sealed for ever in this parish, and throughout the town.

Two inhabitants of the parish of Camberwell have issued a hand-bill, stating their determination not to pay a church-rate professed to be levied on the 16th of June, and to contest the matter in a court of law. The following are the grounds of their determination:—"At a vestry held on the 16th of June last, the Rev. Samuel Smith in the chair, a motion was made that a rate of two-pence in the pound be granted the churchwardens. An amendment that this vestry refuses such rate was also made by one of us, and after some discussion put to a show of hands, but the original motion was declared to have been carried. The mover of the amendment then demanded a poll of the parish, which poll ought to have commenced the following morning, in accordance with the churchwardens' own arrangement in case one should be demanded, but no such poll has been taken to this day, though many went to the appointed place for the purpose of recording their votes. A decided refusal was given to several applications to save the parish a contest, and after the usual vote of thanks to the rev. chairman the vestry broke up. One of us the next day was informed, upon inquiry, by Mr. Stutter, a churchwarden, that he had nothing to do in the matter; he understood the demand for a poll was made too late, and that the applicant, if dissatisfied, must see Mr. Smith (the chairman), whose business it was. The rev. gentleman a day or two afterwards refused him an interview on the score of ill-health."

THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONFERENCE THIS WEEK.

From a programme issued by the Executive Committee we learn that the delegates will assemble on to-morrow morning, at half-past ten o'clock, and adjourn in the afternoon until six in the evening. On Friday, the sitting will commence at ten o'clock, the proceedings closing with a soirée at the Whittington Club, Arundel-street, Strand, to commence at six o'clock. Delegates only will be entitled to sit in the Conference, but cards of admission to the galleries will be furnished to subscribers, on application to the secretary—that is, if any yet remain.

Arrangements have been made for a cold collation, at the London Tavern, between the morning and evening sittings on Thursday. Such of the society's

friends as may be desirous of joining the delegates may obtain tickets at 5s. each. Tickets of admission to the soirée, at 1s. 6d. each, to be had at the offices only, by immediate application.

The following are the names of delegates appointed since last week, and up to yesterday afternoon:—

Manchester. G. Hadfield, Esq., M.P. James Watts, Esq. Thomas Roberts, Esq. John Bard, Esq. Joseph Spencer, Esq. W. J. Hoyle, Esq. Rev. W. McKerrow, D.D. Rev. Alexander E. Pearce. Rev. D. M. Evans.	Bradford (additional). William Stephens, Esq.	Leicester (additional). Mr. Henry Shenton. Mr. G. Anderson. Rev. Thomas Stevenson.	Northampton. Thomas Grundy, Esq. Mr. G. Moore. Mr. P. P. Perry. Mr. Luke Moore. Mr. A. C. Clifton. Mr. J. Errington.	Edinburgh. James Durham, Esq. Mr. A. Jack.	Tottenham. Thomas Tuffield, Esq.	Stepney. Samuel Morley, Esq. Rev. J. Kennedy. Rev. R. S. Bayley. Mr. Philip Crellin. Mr. J. Chipchase.	Camberwell. Rev. J. Burnet. Wm. Edwards, Esq.	Devonshire-square. Mr. John Itains. Mr. Pain.	Southcark. Apsley Pellatt, Esq., M.P. John Thwaites, Esq. Charles Jones, Esq. N. T. Langridge, Esq.	Islington and Holloway. Rev. G. B. Thomas. Rev. T. Lessey. Mr. J. Carvell Williams. Mr. A. S. Braden.	(Cross-street). Mr. William Barker.	Stockwell. Rev. D. Thomas. Mr. E. Carille. Mr. R. Crossley. Mr. Appleton.	Kennington and Lambeth. Rev. W. Bean. Mr. H. R. Ellington. Mr. John Doulton, Jun. Mr. R. Bartrum.	Bethnal Green. Rev. John Glanville. John C. Dexter, Esq.	Wallingford. Mr. George Scorey.	Staplehurst. Mr. Wm. Jull.	Kidderminster. Thomas Thompson, Esq. Mr. John Cook, Jun.	Thame. Emanuel Dodwell, Esq.	Shillington. Rev. J. H. Irwin.	Wymondham. W. H. Tipple, Esq.	Ryle. Mr. Charles Colenutt.	Long Buckby. Rev. T. M. Thorpe. Rev. J. P. Haddy.	Spalding. Mr. T. Johnson.	Blaby. Rev. H. N. Barnett. Mr. Cook Baines.	Princes Risborough. Rev. J. B. Blackmore. Mr. James Pratt.	Whitchurch and Lightfield. Rev. William Bontems. Mr. William Nield.	Guildenborough. Rev. N. Hawkes.	Marsh Gibbon. Rev. Robert Ann.	Pershore. Rev. H. N. Barnett.	Dorking. Mr. Charles Rose.	Hemel Hempstead. Rev. N. Hawkes. Mr. J. F. Bontems.	Louth. Mr. William Newton.	Accrington. Rev. C. Williams. Mr. T. Haworth.	Farsley. Rev. Edward S. Pryce.	Windsor. Rev. S. Lillycrop. Mr. Charles Morton.	Brentwood. Rev. John Hall. Mr. J. F. Butler.	Birchington. Rev. James Croft.	Salisbury. Rev. J. W. Todd. Rev. J. T. Collier.	Stainland. Rev. I. V. Mummery.	Old (Northamptonshire). Rev. John Spence. Mr. Joseph Wells.	Bradford (additional). Rev. J. P. Chown. Mr. John Cooke. Mr. William Hutton.	Rochdale (additional). Rev. W. F. Burchell. Mr. Oliver Ormerod. Mr. Thomas Scholesfield.	Stoke-upon-Trent. Mr. A. Cockshaw.	Keighley. Rev. J. P. Barnett.	Gravesend. J. J. Ridge, Esq., M.D. H. W. Davison, Esq.	Stratford, Essex. Rev. T. E. Stallybrass.	Aberdare. F. Doulton, Esq. Mr. C. W. Sheeres.	Dalkeith. Thomas Fawcett, Esq.	Norwich (additional). Mr. C. J. Bunting.	Writtle. Mr. J. Dowson. Rev. I. B. Law.	Kimbolton. Rev. Samuel Edgar. Mr. Joseph Baines.	Blockley. Mr. James Smith. Mr. Francis Nicholls.	St. Albans. Rev. W. Upton. Mr. J. Wiles.	Chelmsford. Rev. R. Bowman. W. W. Perry, Esq. John Copland, Esq. Thomas Johns, Esq.	Christchurch. W. Tice, Esq. Rev. Joseph Fletcher.	Enfield. Rev. S. J. Smith. Mr. Peter Runney.	Swansea. W. H. Michael, Esq. Rev. Charles Short.	Boroughbridge. Rev. J. C. Cotterall.	Perth. Charles Gilpin, Esq.	Maidstone. Rev. H. H. Dobney. Mr. G. A. Benthif.	Abergavenny. Mr. S. Solomon.	Cardiff. W. T. Edwards, Esq., M.D. John Batchelor, Esq. John Edy, Esq. George Sully, Esq.	Thornton. Rev. James Gregory.	Haverfordwest. Apsley Pellatt, Esq., M.P. George Stephenson, Esq. Mr. Henry Bldgood. W. S. Owen, Esq.	Blackburn. Rev. W. Barker.	Doncaster. Edwin Lankester, Esq., LL.D., F.R.S. Rev. W. Marcus.	Staleybridge. Samuel Giles, Esq.	Oxford. J. Grubb, Esq. Mr. Henry Hatch.	Devonport. Rev. John Fyer.	Milford Haven. Mr. Henry Thomas.	Malton. J. A. Merrington, Esq.	Wrentham. Edward Swaine, Esq. Stafford Allen, Esq.	New Basford. Thomas Robinson, Esq.	Kelecdon. Mr. Jabez Vincent Braddy.	Leves. Mr. George Adams. Rev. Henry Lawrence.	Whitisham. Rev. John Cooper.	Rotherham. Rev. J. Ellaby. Mr. Herbert S. Skeats.	Crayford. Rev. C. Hoaken. Mr. Alfred T. Bowser.	Earls Barton. Mr. W. Bowser, sen. Mr. Cook Baines.	Pontypool. Mr. Luskid Hull. Mr. John Jenkins.	Bath. G. W. Alexander, Esq. Rev. David Wassell.	Nottingham. Rev. J. A. Baines, A.B. W. Vickers, Esq.	Roydon. Rev. William Garland Barrett. John Fordham, Esq.	Kibworth. Mr. Cook Baines. Mr. A. T. Bowser.	Loddiswell. R. Peek, Esq.
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The Committee having decided that, under the Conference regulations, Sunday-school teachers, as such, are not competent to appoint delegates, the appointments announced as made at Leeds and at the Weigh-house are inadmissible.

ISLINGTON.—A public meeting to appoint delegates to the Conference, was held in the British Schools,

Denmark-terrace, on Wednesday evening last; Robert Dence, Esq., in the chair. The Chairman, purpose for which the Conference was about to be held, and expressed his opinion that it would be one of the most respectable and influential assemblies ever convened for such an object [hear]. He strongly animadverted on the evils of Church patronage, and referred, as a striking illustration, to the circumstances connected with the parish of St. Dionis Backchurch, in the City. Dr. Fellow (Dean of Norwich) had been the non-resident rector of this parish for twenty-four years, during which time he had preached altogether twenty-four sermons; had received from the living £450 per annum, out of which he paid a curate £150 per annum, and pocketed the difference. He (the rector) at length determined to make an exchange of livings with Dr. Lyall (Dean of Canterbury), who held the rectorship of Great Chart, in Kent. The parishioners, on learning of this transaction being proposed, and that one non-resident was about to hand over the parish to another, very promptly drew up a petition to the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury, who had the presentation—the very Dean, in fact, who was about to present himself [laughter], and they strongly urged the necessity of their having a resident incumbent, who should really attend to their spiritual interests. This memorial was signed by the churchwardens, and many influential gentlemen, and had the effect of shaming the Dean out of settling himself in the living; but he proceeded forthwith to present his nephew—a young man not twenty-three years of age. It was found that he could not legally read himself in under six months, when the living would lapse, and accordingly the memorialists went to the Bishop to expostulate. All the reply they got, however, was that he (the Bishop) did not interfere in such matters, and so the parishioners of St. Dionis Backchurch had to submit to this nefarious transaction, and it presented just one phase of the evils connected with a State Church, and was only one out of many instances of the same kind [hear, hear]. He concluded an able speech by earnestly urging the necessity of vigorously carrying on the movement of the Anti-state-church Association. The first and second resolutions affirmed the State-church principle to be injurious to religion and the interests of society generally—approved of the movement of the Association as one of the most important of the present day—and expressed the desire of the meeting that the approaching Conference might be a numerous and influential assembly, and its deliberations productive of great and lasting benefit, and the cause it is intended to advance. These resolutions were respectively moved and seconded by Messrs. Charles H. Elt, A. T. Langridge, J. Carvell Williams, and Rev. Basil H. Cooper, B.A., and were carried unanimously. Mr. John Templeton moved, and Mr. John Cook seconded, the last resolution, appointing the Revs. G. B. Thomas and Theophilus Lessey, and Messrs. A. S. Braden and J. Carvell Williams as delegates to the Conference. This resolution was also carried with acclamation, and a vote of thanks having been tendered to the Chairman, the meeting separated.

PRINCES RISBOROUGH, BUCKS.—On Monday, the 24th of October, a meeting was convened in the vestry of the Dissenting chapel of this town, to discuss the question of secular legislation in religion, and the appropriation of State resources to forms of religious worship and instruction, and to appoint delegates to represent the Voluntarism of the neighbourhood at the forthcoming Conference. Several resolutions were unanimously carried, one fully adopting the society's fundamental principle, and others recognising the propriety of such an association, and concurring in the importance attached to the forthcoming Conference, electing two delegates, and forming a local committee to promote the object in this neighbourhood. A thoroughly calm and practical tone distinguished the meeting.

KEIGHLEY, YORKSHIRE.—On Thursday, the 25th ult., a meeting was held in the spacious school-room adjoining the Baptist Chapel in this town, in connexion with the British Anti-state-church Association. J. Town, Esq., occupied the chair. The attendance was numerous, and resolutions affirmative of the Anti-state-church principle, and confidence in the Association, were unanimously adopted. Addresses were delivered by Revs. — Hanson (Haworth), J. P. Barnett (Baptist, Keighley), and J. Clarke (Wesleyan Association, Keighley); also by Messrs. Whittaker (Bradford), Bell, and Bateman. Mr. Barnett was appointed to represent the meeting in the approaching Conference. As this is the first meeting ever held in this populous and rapidly-increasing town, in connexion with the Anti-state-church movement, the friends of religious freedom feel highly encouraged by the largeness of the attendance, and by the unanimity of sentiment which evidently prevailed.

OTHER MEETINGS.—Our space will not allow us to do more than briefly record other meetings, which have, since our last, taken place for the appointment of delegates. At Stockwell, the meeting took place on Friday, at the Educational Institute, Douglas Allport, Esq., presiding, and the Rev. D. Thomas, Rev. J. Hiron, and Messrs. Crossley, Carlile, Ellington, Williams, and Moore, took part. On Monday, delegates were elected at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, Mr. Ellington taking the chair, and the Rev. Messrs. Richard, Doxsey, and Bean, and Mr. Chamerovzow speaking. At Stepney (in the Stepney Meeting School-rooms), Ebenezer Clarke, Esq., occupied the chair, and the Messrs. Bayley, Kennedy, and Stovel, and Messrs. Merrington and Williams, took part. The names of the delegates appointed at each place will be found in the list. Doncaster has had its meeting, at which the Rev. J. Stock, of Salendine Nook, and Mr. William Heaton, of Leeds, attended as a deputation.

ANTI-STATE-CHURCH DISCUSSION AT BRADFORD.

At the Anti-state-church meeting held in this town a fortnight since, it may be recollected that a Mr. Clarke moved an amendment to the resolution proposed by Mr. E. Miall. The amendment was lost by an overwhelming majority, but, nothing daunted, Mr. Clarke advertised a lecture on the subject, inviting discussion, and specially challenging Mr. Miall, or some competent representative, to defend his views. On Wednesday evening last, accordingly, a very numerous audience assembled in the Temperance Hall. Mr. Clarke commenced by saying that he would explain the composition of the Anti-state-church Association. There belonged to it, chiefly, the Independents; then, some of the Wesleyans; thirdly, the Socinians; and lastly, "Nothingarians," including Atheists, with every variety of unbelievers. Their aim was, to destroy our Protestant constitution. This amounted to a virtual deposition of the Queen, whose right to the throne was connected with her Protestantism. The Stuarts would thus be restored (and though Mr. Miall had said the Stuart family had died out, who knew whether some scion of the stock were not even yet existing, and ready to appear?) or if not this, to annihilate monarchy altogether, and restore a Republic. The sects would all be at war with one another, and anarchy, both civil and religious, would everywhere prevail. In the struggle, Popery would, no doubt, come uppermost again. He (Mr. Clarke) did not know whether there might not be emissaries of the Papacy in the Anti-state-church Association itself. Nay, it had been whispered that Mr. Miall was a concealed Jesuit, though for that he (the lecturer) would not vouch! He would now prove that Church establishments were in the Bible. Indeed, that was admitted. Mr. Kingsley, when once confronted by Mr. Clarke at Leeds, had confessed it. With all who were governed by Scripture, therefore, further argument was unnecessary. But he would turn to the passages. The lecturer then, at some length, quoted and expounded from Deuteronomy and other books, showing that, in the Jewish nation, Church and State were united. And now for the New Testament. Here there was one text (and only one) which Anti-state-churchmen were accustomed to quote. It was the only support which they even professed to derive from the Bible:—"My kingdom is not of this world." These words, however, rightly understood, gave no support to the opponents of State-churches. "Of this world" meant "like this world"—transient—evanescent; for "the fashion of this world passeth away." Christ meant, therefore, to affirm the perpetuity and eternity of his dominion. And now what had Anti-state-churchmen to rest on? But, on the other hand, he found it written, "Let every soul be subject to the higher powers; for the powers that be are ordained of God." And again, "Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake—whether unto magistrates," &c. It was, therefore, right that a controlling power should be given to the State over the Church, to correct abuses. Now, if a clergyman misconducted himself, he could be punished, and effectually restrained. Was it so in the sects? The subordination of the Church to the State was, therefore, as scriptural a thing as the constitution and doctrine of the Church itself, and would any one say these were not scriptural? Why, when Dissenters went to the Evangelical Alliance they were full of praise and compliments to the "excellent Liturgy" of the Church, and her scriptural Articles, and then they went away and vituperated her upon the Anti-state-church platform. In the Alliance they would join with her, "heart and hand," to keep out Popery, but in the Association united with all her enemies to let in Popery. But this was a money question, and a question of conscience too!—conscience about a sixpenny church-rate! Well, were there not money questions in all churches? Did Independent ministers preach for nothing? Dissenting chapels were matters of private speculation. Then in the Church of England all had a share in the benefit. The people at large could claim her ordinances; it was only just, therefore, that they should pay their share. There were no church-rates, he was reminded, in Bradford. But he would tell them an anecdote. When the present vicar came, there was a radical churchwarden who wanted to do away with the church-rate. "Very well," said the vicar, "I will consent, provided the pew-rents be abandoned." So the thing was done. Now, what were the pew-rents? Why, certain Dissenters of Bradford had pews in the parish church belonging to their residences. Their consciences would not let them come to church, so they let the pews to others; and having scruples "on principle" to sixpenny church-rates, they had none to the pew-rent of £10 a-year that went into their own pockets! Mr. Clarke then passed on to other topics, as the proposed admission of Jews into Parliament, of the motives of which measure he propounded an elaborate theory—bringing in Russia and the Pope, with other personages. He was commenting on the oaths taken by members of Parliament, and Mr. Miall's obligation to observe them, when the audience grew somewhat impatient (he had spoken an hour and a half), and he rather abruptly closed, saying, that at some future time he might resume the subject, when, possibly, Mr. Miall or Mr. Kingsley would deem it worth while to come down, to argue even with an humble individual like himself. The Rev. S. G. Green immediately rose, and said it would be a pity to trouble either of those gentlemen who had so many other things to attend to. The battle could be very well fought out, he thought, by local forces. Mr. Clarke had said much into which he (Mr. Green) should not attempt to follow him. A few words only on the alleged Popish aims of the association, upon the scripture argument, and upon the real purposes of Anti-state-churchmen. But first, to correct misapprehen-

sion, he would read the "Fundamental Principle." Here the "word of God" was directly recognised; the association, therefore, was not atheistical, nor anything like it. Now, as to the Popery question. One would think, to hear Mr. Clarke, that they were hand-and-glove with the Papists, and that whoever else was or was not in the association, there would be sure to be plenty of Roman Catholics. What was the fact? He happened to have in his pocket Cardinal Wiseman's own public opinion of the Association. "They are not our people," says the Cardinal, "who form Anti-state-and-church Associations; it is not our press which sends forth caricatures of ecclesiastical dignitaries, or throws ridicule on clerical avocations. With us the cause of truth and faith has been held too sacred to be advocated in any but honourable and religious modes. We have avoided the tumult of public assemblies, and farthing appeals to the ignorance of the multitude." It appeared, then, that Cardinal Wiseman did not like them any better than Mr. Clarke. One would think, again, that at any rate all the increase and power of Popery came from the Anti-state-church ranks. Some future historian, if all Mr. Clarke said were true, would surely have to write of our days. "At that time there rose up in the land an insidious and most dangerous society called the Anti-state-church Association. Its aim was the unprotestantizing of England. To this end its members worked covertly at first, but afterwards more openly, and at last the eyes of the people were opened by numerous actual defections to Rome from the ranks of the society. The Colleges, whose presidents and tutors were members of the Association, were especially noted for the number of their students who went over to the Papal church." But was it so? No; the tale must be told but the parties must be changed. The mischief had been done, but by other men. It was the Church of England, not the Anti-state-church Association, in which the principles of Popery had struck root; and the Colleges whence the defections had taken place had been those, not of the Dissenting bodies, but of the University of Oxford—the great bulwark of that Church which was the great bulwark of Protestantism! One would think, again, that Popery and the Anti-state-church principle were essentially similar. But was this true? All history told that the mischiefs of Popery arose in great part from the very connexion of Church and State. This was, indeed, the great parent of persecution and oppression in all churches, both Papal and Protestant. With regard to the Queen, she ought to have full liberty of conscience to form and act upon her own belief. It was right, however, to say that on another question, honest Anti-state-churchmen differed. Some regarded the Roman Catholic Church not as a religious system merely, but as a great political confederacy hostile to freedom, and consistently, therefore, maintained that no member of it ought to sit upon the throne of England. That throne was no place for a vassal of the Pope any more than for a subject of Russia, of France, or any other foreign state. If, therefore, this view of Popery was correct, the Protestantism of the throne ought to be maintained on political principles, and a Papist to be excluded, not because he believed in the real presence or worshipped the Virgin, but because (like James II.) he could not be a true Englishman. Mr. Green then went into the Scripture argument, showing that the Jewish theocracy was not intended to be a model for modern governments. At any rate, if it were, the "vicegerents of God" must, like the kings and priests of Israel, produce the tokens of their divine commission. This they had never done yet. The New Testament passages quoted by the lecturer were then explained. On the last of them, Mr. Green asked whether Paul and Peter meant to tell Christians to worship Jupiter, if the "higher powers" commanded it? It was evident, that the injunction could not apply to matters of conscience at all. The martyrs under Queen Mary gloriously disobeyed the ruling powers; so did the martyrs under Queen Bess. John Bunyan did the same. When Church and State forbade him to preach, he preached; so Church and State threw him into Bedford jail; and there, by authority of the Establishment—our own Church—settled and in stating the object of the meeting, explained the constituted as now—he was left to rot, but praise be to God, he did not rot, but wrote the Pilgrim's Progress! No thanks, though, to the State Church for that wondrous book. Though the means, indirectly, of so much blessing to the world, it was unconscious, malignant, all the while. It was wonderful to see what unworthy instruments Providence sometimes employed for its highest purpose. The speaker concluded by setting forth the real position of the Association, as hostile to no sect, but to a principle more or less embodied in many sects, and to be struggled against wherever found. Should any strange accident ever bring his own sect into connexion with the State, he hoped he should have the manhood and Christianity to stand up and denounce the unhallowed union as earnestly as he had now condemned it in its relation to another religious body. For himself, he greatly respected and admired many members of the Church of England as good and useful men; he believed their church would become far holier, greater, and more efficient if disestablished; and as it was, he was ever ready—and that most consistently with his anti-state-churchism—to meet and work with clergymen whenever he could do so on equal terms—not as superior in dignity, but as one in Christianity; remembering who had said, "Be ye not called rabbi; for one is your Master, even Christ, and all ye are brethren."—Mr. Clarke briefly replied, and challenged Mr. Green to a public discussion. This the latter could not engage to undertake, on account of his numerous duties; but suggested that as Mr. Clarke appeared to have only half finished his lecture, the rest should be given on another occasion, when he (Mr. Green)

would attend, and say at the close what the hour might prompt. The meeting broke up late at night. It is only just to add, that the audience, almost entirely made up of working men, and including many zealous partisans on either side, maintained entire good humour and close attention throughout.

MISS CUNNINGHAME AND PERSECUTION IN SWEDEN.

A deputation from the Ecclesiastical Alliance, headed by Sir Culling Eardley, waited upon Lord Clarendon on Thursday, to thank him and the Government for the exertions made to procure the liberation of Miss Cunningham. In reply, Lord Clarendon stated that the despatch sent from the Foreign Office did not arrive in time to be acted upon by Mr. Scarlett. But Mr. Scarlett's conduct had been very judicious; he had represented to the Tuscan Government that Miss Cunningham was ignorant of the law; that the law was harsh towards her; and that the people of England would be sure to take the matter up and demand her release. As far as Mr. Scarlett's reports go, the conduct of the Tuscan Ministers has been highly creditable to them; they approved of Mr. Scarlett's efforts, and assisted him as far as they could. Since her liberation, Miss Cunningham had been ordered to quit Tuscany; but on Mr. Scarlett's pointing out that it would be a hardship to her if she were separated from her mother, who was then ill, the order had been withdrawn.

In reply to further inquiry, the Earl of Clarendon said:—

I can only repeat what I said to you, as I did to Lord Shaftesbury, that I do not think any British subject has a right to go into another country and refuse to observe the laws that prevail there. The laws may be as cruel and harsh as possible, but if British subjects do go there of their own accord, and live, they cannot disregard those laws altogether. In this country we require all foreigners to comply with our laws. My language in this case was that it was a melancholy thing that such a law should exist at all, and still more that it should have been recently enacted,—that it was melancholy to think that persons in high places could bring themselves to believe that such proceedings could be agreeable to the Almighty, or could be in harmony with the mild doctrines of Christ.

Sir Culling called attention to the persecutions carried on in Protestant Sweden, and asked whether it would be legitimate for them directly to present a petition or representation of facts to the Diet, or if they must apply through the channel of his lordship or the Ambassador at Stockholm? The Earl of Clarendon said this must depend upon the regulations of the Diet—whether foreigners would be permitted to come before it by petition. If the deputation would allow him, he would make inquiry into the circumstances, and give them the best advice he could after ascertaining them. The facts were new to him, but he had the means of making inquiry, and should not fail to do so.

PROFESSOR MAURICE AND THE COUNCIL OF KING'S COLLEGE.—It is understood that Mr. Maurice has been definitively removed from the chair of ecclesiastical history by the Council of King's College, in consequence of the doubts respecting his orthodoxy suggested by a volume of "Theological Essays," recently published by the rev. gentleman. The announcement was made by Dr. Jelf on Saturday last that Professor Maurice's lectures would be discontinued.

PUSEYISM IN LIVERPOOL.—The difference between the congregation and ministers of St. Michael's Church, Liverpool, has been settled, the Rev. Messrs. Carpenter and Bardsley (the congregation's favourites) having arranged to conduct the morning and afternoon services, and the Rev. Mr. Morrall the evening. The Rev. Mr. Pugh, whose Popish doctrines are not relished by the congregation, is not to take part in the services.

Convocation has been further prorogued to the 30th of the ensuing month.

Religious and Educational Intelligence.

SIR CULLING EARDLEY ON HIS MATURED VIEWS.—The foundation-stone of the new Congregational chapel at New Bexley was laid on the 19th ult. After singing, the Rev. G. Verrell, of Bromley, read a portion of Scripture, and the Rev. T. Timpson, of Lewisham, engaged in prayer. The Rev. W. R. Noble, pastor of the church, then stated that in consequence of the extreme inclemency of the weather, together with the death of a near relative, Sir Culling Eardley, Bart., who had been announced to lay the stone, was unable to attend. In a letter apologizing for his absence, Sir Culling makes the following confession:—

I should have rejoiced to show to my friends, by my presence, that in what I regard the special truth entrusted by the Lord Jesus Christ to the keeping and care of Independents, I am able, by God's grace, to say that I concur as fully as I ever did in other days. I do, indeed, look back with regret to any over-statements, and ultra feelings, and precipitate efforts to hasten great changes, with which, I doubt not, I may have accompanied the assertion of principles substantially sound. But I still believe that you are right, divinely right in maintaining the purity of the Church, and its consequent destiny to be ultimately separated from legal alliance with the Governments of this world. The change may be slow, but come it will; and our children will see days, if we do not, when it will be acknowledged that the Independents did good service to the Church in maintaining a testimony for a great truth; while at the same time, if I mistake not, our descendants will say too, that the principles most precious were embodied in the Episcopal Church of England; and that it was much to be regretted that these principles of modest faith, and holy unction,

and vocal congregational participation in worship, and many other valuable things, had been rendered unpalatable to dissidents from the National Church by their association with the arm of secular power. Much as I value the principles I refer to, I should not have been a party to introducing their manifestation, in the shape of an Independent chapel, into the parish of so laborious and thoroughly excellent a clergyman as the Rev. Mr. Harding, but for the statement which you made to me of the necessity for doing so. You informed me that there were numerous persons, accustomed to the habits, services, and discipline of the Independent churches, resident in New Bexley, who wished such a step to be taken; and I am sure that, in taking that step, you keep our special principles in the back ground, and make Christ and him crucified prominent—not stealing communicants, but converting the ungodly, the Lord and Head of the Church will not only give you souls for your hire, but will also win for you the respect and regard of the incumbent and of his friends.

The bottle, containing copies of the *Evangelical Magazine*, *Christian Witness*, *Banner*, *Christian Times*, *Nonconformist*, daily *Times*, rules, &c., of the Chapel Building societies, and various denominational papers and records of local interest, together with a brief account of the rise and progress of the Congregational church in New Bexley, having been deposited, the pastor of the church proceeded to lay the stone with the usual formalities. An address was then delivered by the Rev. J. C. Gallaway, M.A., of London, and the Rev. J. Pulling, of Deptford, concluded the service. At a subsequent tea-meeting, Mr. Thomas Lane, one of the deacons of the church, presided. Addresses were delivered by the Revs. W. Lucy, T. Simpson, G. Verrell, Wallis, Warn, &c. The Revs. W. Campbell, M.A., and J. Hebditch, also took part in the proceedings of the day. The proposed chapel will stand on a freehold site, in a very conspicuous part of the village, at the corner of two streets, and facing the old Doctor-road. The plan consists of a simple parallelogram, 51 feet by 31 feet 6 inches in the clear; and will accommodate on the ground floor 330 sitters, with ample provision for future galleries. The style of the building is decorated Gothic of the fourteenth century. A contract has been entered into by the committee with Mr. Amos, of New Bexley, to erect the chapel for £869; and the whole being done from the drawings, and under the superintendence of Joseph James, Esq., architect, of London.

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.—The Rev. John Gill, of Hackney, agent to the Jewish Society, has been unanimously chosen to succeed the late Mr. Wallis, as pastor of the Independent church and congregation in this town. He commenced his labours on the 23rd ult., with encouraging prospects of usefulness.

ILKESTON.—On the 16th ult., the Rev. George Hoatson, late of Halifax, commenced his labours as pastor of the Independent church and congregation at Ilkeston, Derbyshire. On the following day a tea-meeting was held to welcome the rev. gentleman to the place. The chair was occupied by R. Murray, Esq. (who spoke in high terms of the qualifications of their new pastor), and M. Holeson, Esq., J. Ball, Esq., and Mr. Hoatson delivered addresses. The meeting passed off very pleasantly. Another tea-meeting was held in the same place on Thursday, to entertain the senior scholars, at which the pastor was present. From the proceeds of both a sufficient fund was raised to furnish matting for the aisles of the chapel, and a clock.

WIGAN.—A tea-party of the congregation assembling in the New Baptist Chapel, Wigan-lane, and their friends, was held on Monday evening week, to celebrate the completion of their handsome place of worship. The accommodation provided was taxed to the utmost, upwards of 400 persons being present. Tea was served in the old chapel and schoolroom, Lord-street, and the company afterwards adjourned to the new chapel. Mr. W. Ellison, pastor of the congregation, took the chair, and after briefly introducing the business of the meeting, he called upon Mr. Park, senior deacon, who read a paper giving a succinct account of the origin and progress of the work, the completion of which they were met to celebrate, from which it appears that the cost of the new building will be about £2,000. The meeting was afterwards addressed by the Rev. T. Dawson, of Liverpool, the Rev. B. C. Etheridge, of Bolton, who gave an interesting account of his missionary operations amongst the Roman Catholics in Ireland; the Rev. W. Roaf, Independent minister; and the Rev. W. T. Nelson, Wesleyan minister. The meeting was closed with a hymn and prayer. The proceedings appeared to give very great satisfaction to the numerous company present. On Sunday last the Rev. W. F. Burchell, of Rochdale, preached two sermons in the new chapel, both to large congregations. After that in the morning the sum of £42 9s. 5d. was collected, and in the evening £57 17s. 8d.; total amount received during the day, £100 7s. 1d. The collections on Thursday, at the opening of the chapel, amounted to £150 7s. 4d.; so that £250 14s. 5d. has thus been obtained, and in addition upwards of £15 (proceeds of the tea-party) towards liquidating the debt of £500 upon the building.

WIVENHOE, ESSEX.—On the 18th ult., the Rev. J. Hubbard was presented with an elegant silver cream jug, by the members of his church, as a token of their esteem. Upwards of 90 out of 105 members of the church contributed towards the gift.

RECOGNITION TEA-MEETING.—About 250 friends, and members of the Baptist Church, Parker's-row, Gloucester, met on Tuesday evening, the 25th ult., to celebrate the settlement of their pastor, the Rev. George M'Michael, B.A., from Stepney College. There were present the Rev. Joseph Hyatt, of the Congregational chapel, who occupied the chair, Rev. T. Roberts, of the Countess of Huntingdon's connexion, Rev. T. Laxton, Reform Wesleyan Society, all of Gloucester city; Rev. James Smith, of Cheltenham, and Wm.

Yates, of Stroud. The proceedings passed off greatly to the satisfaction of all concerned. Mr. M'Michael enters upon his labours here with encouraging prospects—the chapel being situated in a central and respectable locality of this populous and increasing city, and is a commodious and newly-built edifice; the erection of which is greatly due to the self-denying exertions of the late pastor, the Rev. George Woodrow.

THE REV. STEWART WILLIAMSON has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the first Baptist church, South-street, Exeter, and will commence his ministerial labours in the beginning of December.

WALTHAM ABBEY BRITISH SCHOOLS.—A bazaar of fancy and useful articles in aid of these schools was held on October 12 and two following days, and realized £60.

THE REV. BREWIN GRANT has recently delivered lectures on Secularism and kindred topics at Thornton and Pudsey to crowded audiences. On each occasion, numbers of free-thinkers were present, but did not succeed in carrying the audiences with them.

Correspondence.

BRITISH GUIANA.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

DEAR SIR,—The wise men of Gotham, who live in the above-mentioned land of mud and mosquitoes, have just been smitten with a great desire for the better education of the colony. The men who have got up the movement, and who have succeeded in passing a bill on the subject, which now only awaits her Majesty's sanction, are the very men who, in all possible ways, have always prevented the people educating themselves; who for long years scoffed and sneered at the idea of "pumpkin-headed Quashie" having any brains; who have persecuted and proscribed missionaries of every sect that laboured quietly in teaching the people, unaided by grants of Government money; who, in this colony specially, by the introduction of hordes of idolaters from India, and thousands of Kroomen from Africa, chiefly at the labourers' expense, have, by excessive and unequal taxation, so impoverished the people, that they have little to spare for the education of their children, while at the same time, amongst a people just rising into a hitherto unknown morality, they have imported the worst of vices, and the most degraded of superstitions; the men who have done all this, and more than this, have just now "enacted and made" an act for the education of the children of the agricultural population that deserves a passing notice, even amidst our own present exciting topics.

British Guiana is to have a central board of education, called a council, to be appointed by the Governor and Court of Policy, and to consist of seven persons (the perfect number), whose special vocation it shall be to meet "once each month" (which they will never do), to ascertain the "progress of education" (that is, to know how many boys and girls go to school, said boys and girls having been well abused every day for going to school at all by the manager of the estate, who declares the cane pieces are very foul for want of the "picanniny gang" to weed them; said manager also abusing father and mother, and threatening to give them no more work unless they bring their children to work also); this council is to divide the colony into "school districts" (much better to divide it into electoral districts, and give the people the franchise and a voice in the ruinous taxation of our finest West Indian colony); and these school districts are all to be very religious districts—it being of "the highest importance that regard be paid to the instruction of youth in the rudiments of the Christian religion"—every teacher being required "to devote a certain portion of every school day to the instruction of the school in the truths of the Christian religion," and this shall be "an especial duty" where "Africans, Coolies, or other heathen immigrants" are present.

Then, next, not to dwell upon the minuter details of the bill, there are schools to be got up; they must be got up in some fashion to look well in the annual report; and this is the model plan of compulsory education a little in advance of our own little lord's pet scheme, happily abandoned like a sinking ship just in time to save the crew; "all parents who are not prevented by poverty" (of which the council is to judge) are to send "their children, between the ages of five and twelve years, to some school," provided always "such children be in good health" (how well they can sham, and will sham we know), "under pain" (that is, the parents) "of forfeiting"—mark how nicely and delicately the colonial scale of penalties is graduated—"for each day's absence, of every child between the ages of eight and twelve years, the sum of four cents, and for each day's absence of every child between the ages of five and eight years, the sum of two cents." Who is to report the absence, and who is to collect the fines, the act does not specify—and if it did, the result would be the same; the people are so widely scattered in remote and unfrequented districts, and there are such immediately available resources for the most glorious evasion, that our black friends will again enjoy another joke at the abortive wisdom of their meddling governors and governments.

A more needless piece of legislation has, perhaps, seldom been perpetrated; the great comfort is, that like a great many other acts of that clumsy combination of official and non-official men that constitute the Government of British Guiana, it must remain virtually a dead letter.

The people of the West Indies are, through their own native energy, rising in intelligence and civilization, not only as fast, but faster, than might have been expected. As an illustration, I may give the following extract from a letter lately received from a merchant in Barbadoes. He says:—"About six months since, perceiving a desire on the part of several coloured and black young men in this town (Bridge Town), to improve their minds, I proposed to them to send home for newspapers and periodicals, and to establish a reading society. I proposed a subscription of 3d. a week; the thing has taken well, and we number now upwards of 250, and the room is open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. The following are some of our papers; &c.—"

British Banner.
Nonconformist.
Daily News.
Illustrated London News.
Evening Mail.
Critic.
Times.
European Times.
Economist.
Spectator.
Wesleyan Times.
Watchman.
Record.
Leeds Mercury.
Glasgow Citizen.
Nation.

Punch.
Liverpool Mercury.
Blackwood.
Westminster.
Edinburgh.
London Quarterly.
Prospective and North British Reviews.
Bible and the People.
Leisure Hour.
Chambers' Journal.
Hogg's Instructor.
Christian Treasury.
Christian Spectator.
Popular Educator.
Household Words, &c., &c."

In Jamaica, the same quiet but real progress is making, notwithstanding the afflictive dispensations through which that beautiful, but most unfortunate island has passed; and in British Guiana at the present time, the few missionaries connected with the London Missionary Society, and who are the only missionaries that repudiate State-aid, have about 3,000 children in their day, and twice that number in their Sunday schools.

But our West Indian legislatures never let well alone; on principle they meddle with everything; and as the only and well-understood object of most of these bills is to provide places, such as school inspector, local secretaries, &c., &c., for inconvenient friends, the result is, that our ears are perpetually dinned with the cry—"Ruined, ruined, positively for the last time, ruined!" and instead of reducing public expenditure, and knocking off useless placemen, the Carlyle school of theorists tells us "pumpkin-headed Quashie" won't work, and needs "beneficent whip," or beneficent education, on the compulsory principle. Pardon the length of this; but the insane rapacity of our colonial governments is marvellous, and ought not to pass unnoticed.

I remain, dear sir, yours very truly,
Royston, October 13th, 1853. W. G. BARRETT.

EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.

The seventh annual Conference of the British organization of the Evangelical Alliance commenced on Tuesday last, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. In the evening a *soirée* was held, which was very numerous attended. Among the gentlemen present were the Hon. and Rev. Leland Noel, the Revs. Dr. Morison, Dr. Duff, Dr. Henderson, Dr. Steane, Dr. Blackwood, Dr. Bunting, Dr. Hamilton, Dr. Hoby, C. J. Glyn, J. Angell James, T. R. Brooke, J. P. Dobson, C. M. Wimberley, T. Curme, A. S. Thelwall, Adolphe Monod, W. Chalmers, J. Adey, P. Latrobe, — Dickinson; Major Hughes, Captain Young, J. Henderson, Esq., T. Bignold, Esq., &c. &c.

The Rev. Dr. Morison, who occupied the chair, delivered the annual address.

Another hymn was then sung; prayer was offered up by the Rev. Adolphe Monod; the Rev. Dr. Steane read 1st Cor. xiii.; and the Rev. Dr. Hoby engaged in prayer.

The Rev. W. Chalmers addressed the meeting on the practical resolutions of the Conference of 1846; after which a hymn was sung, and the Rev. Mr. Dickinson offered up prayer.

The members of the Conference re-assembled on Wednesday morning, at ten o'clock. The proceedings commenced by the usual devotional exercises, which were conducted by the Rev. Charles Jackson, who presided, the Revs. W. Anderson, J. H. Hinton, and J. A. James.

After a short address from the Chairman, the Doxology was sung, and the Benediction having been pronounced, the devotional exercises terminated.

Sir Culling Eardley was then voted to the chair, and briefly addressed the meeting, especially dwelling on the necessity of cultivating the virtues of charity and brotherly love among Christians of all denominations, enforcing his arguments by scriptural quotations.

Several business resolutions having been adopted by the Conference,

The Rev. Mr. Jordan read the annual report of the Executive Council. It contained a retrospect of the proceedings of the Conference during the past year. It expressed the sympathy felt by the Conference in various religious movements; and detailed the several measures it had adopted in extending its principles in this country. It also narrated the circumstances attending the incarceration and setting at liberty of the Madiai and Miss Cunningham, and the proceedings in reference to those events adopted by the Council.

The Rev. Dr. Bunting, in moving the adoption of the report, said the Alliance was doing a great work, and doing that which was most needed in the Christian world; for it promoted the spirit of union and brotherly affection, than which a more important work could not be undertaken. The Rev. W. Thompson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Rev. W. Chalmers moved a resolution, appointing a committee to arrange for the publication of cheap editions of the prize essays on "The Papacy" and "Infidelity." These essays were well suited to the working-classes; and, according to a plan submitted by Mr. Oakley, it appeared that if a sale of 20,000 copies could be secured, they might be published at a shilling a volume. It might be thought that the essays were of too high a character to be adapted to the comprehension of the class whose benefit was contemplated. He (Mr. Chalmers) could not think so. The capabilities of the working-classes were often underrated. They had sufficient intelligence to appreciate works of a high order, and they were not easily satisfied with inferior literature. After a short discussion, in which the Rev. J. A. James said he hoped that the Alliance would not assume the character of a religious tract society, the motion was adopted.

The Rev. Dr. Steane brought before the Conference a series of resolutions in reference to Sweden. He stated that a branch of the Evangelical Alliance had been formed in Sweden, embracing the Scandinavian nations; and that a communication had been received

from it asking for sympathy for persecuted Evangelical Christians in that country, and for the adoption of measures which should arrest the intolerance to which they were now exposed. The resolution was seconded and carried.

WANT OF POPULARITY.

At the evening meeting, Admiral Harcourt presided, and the Rev. J. A. James then introduced the subject of the present state of the British organization. He said that it was not in that state of efficiency which should satisfy its members. What could be done to increase its efficiency? He was sorry to say that in Birmingham the society was in a weakly condition. Their small meetings were like angels' visits, few and far between. This was owing to the clergy and ministers not being generally enlisted in the cause of the Alliance. He suggested the employment of a travelling agent. Their meeting in 1843 was of a most popular character. Could not another demonstration of that kind be convened, unconnected with the Alliance, when many who did not belong to the Alliance might be induced to attend?

Some conversation took place on the want of support given to the society. Some thought further information should be diffused; others that there was an objection in some quarters to its basis. Dr. Stewart, of Dublin, said the Alliance was associated in Ireland with Orangeism, and that it was difficult to enlist the sympathies of the Established clergy. The Rev. Dr. Duff thought they should not be weary in well doing, but go on perseveringly. The movements of Providence were to us slow; but "a thousand years was with the Lord as one day, and one day as a thousand years." He (Mr. Duff) thought it might be of advantage to admit a certain number of members, called in Scotland "adherents," as distinct from those who were admitted to communion eventually. The following resolution was then proposed and carried:—

That in the opinion of this Conference, it would conduce very materially to promote the interests, and multiply the members of the Evangelical Alliance, and in every way promote its efficiency, if a well qualified and zealous travelling secretary were employed, who would visit the divisions, confer with their officers, and attend public and other meetings. That the Committee of Council be authorized to look out for, and engage, such a person, provided adequate means can be obtained, and that a subscription be entered into at the present Conference for the accomplishment of this object.

On Thursday morning, the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel presided, and in the course of his opening address, suggested whether Christians might not act together in matters which did not touch their individual opinions. He had often regretted to see how they left to Unitarians a number of secular subjects. Everything of a strictly moralizing character all Christians could unite in promoting. Without saying anything against the total abstinence movement, he thought it was not exactly carried out in a way to enlist the general co-operation of the Christian public; but if lectures were delivered on the evil of drunkenness, the brutal treatment of women, the observance of the Sabbath, and other like subjects, many thousands might be gathered together to hear them, and great good would be effected.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ON THE CONTINENT.

Sir Culling Eardley delivered an address on the present state of the continent in reference to religion. In reference to the state of things in France he read a letter from which the following is an extract:—

Never were we more in need of the sympathies, prayers, and support of our friends. You are well acquainted with our difficulties. Evangelical chapels shut in three of our missionary stations; private family meetings declared to be unlawful by the decisions of the tribunals; our schools interdicted on a large scale; liberty of conscience, the right to evangelize, trampled upon; such is our situation. In a month, probably, these questions will be decided by the Supreme Court of Judicature (la Cour de Cassation). When its decision is known, if it be unfavourable, as we expect it will, we shall make a direct application to the Emperor; and then . . . we shall appeal from Cæsar to God—that is to say, we shall continue to evangelize, confiding in God's protection. Happy shall we be if we are called upon to suffer something for Christ's sake! We live in serious and solemn times. Let our friends pray for us, and with us!

But the blessings keep pace with the difficulties. The spiritual work goes on in the most encouraging manner; in the centres of evangelization, where attacks are making upon it, souls are turning to God. Never was the Bible more abundantly circulated; never were the tracts more universally distributed and read. . . . The fury of our adversaries bears witness to the success of our work. Our success is daily denounced to the authorities by the Catholic newspapers.

One hopeful circumstance connected with the subject was the disposition of Louis Napoleon, upon whom the priestly persecutors were mistakenly resting for support. Some time back two events occurred simultaneously. The French papers contained one day two paragraphs—the one announcing that the Emperor would maintain the law of marriage, as held by the first Napoleon, and the other paragraph stated that the Pope would not come to Paris to crown the Emperor. Sir Culling appeared to think that some kind of negotiation had been going on between France and the Pope, in which the latter had probably offered to come to Paris to crown the Emperor, on condition of having marriage handed over to the church. But this Napoleon would not agree to [hear]. He had hopes for religious liberty in France. Turning to Holland, the audacity of the Court of Rome had had a similar effect in that country to the influence it happily exercised here, in arousing the Protestant spirit of the nation. Passing on to Sweden, he could not but say that liberty was as much suppressed, and the freedom of social religious worship was as much impeded in Protestant Sweden as it was in Papal Tuscany. These Swedish Protestants persecuted the members of their own denomination (and who did not even wish to secede from that denomination), they persecuted those members of the same church with themselves, simply for holding private meetings for religious worship in their own houses; and, if they held such meetings on the Lord's-day, they were persecuted for a double crime—first, the crime of holding the meetings; and, secondly, the additional crime of violating the Sabbath, by holding it on that day. Passing down to Italy, he trusted they would excuse him going into details, as it was very unsafe to give these absolute Governments even a hint [hear, hear]. Some time ago, a friend made statements

in that room, that persons of a certain class in Italy were in the habit of circulating the Scriptures in Rome—and in less than a fortnight afterwards the Papal police came down upon that quarter of the city, and searched the houses of people of the class alluded to, for the purpose of discovering the possession of the Bible. He should, therefore, confine himself to generalities [hear]—and he would commence by saying, that there was a striking movement going on among the Neapolitan clergy, who were widely embracing Jansenist opinions. He next turned to the feelings of the people of Rome, and the states of the church; the people hated the Government of the country most intensely [hear, hear]—indeed, it was generally and strongly felt there (and he had recently himself been there), that if the troops of France were withdrawn, in twenty-four hours every priest in the place would be at the bottom of the Tiber. There was a gentleman residing at Lyons, who was a mutual friend of himself (Sir Culling) and General Gêmeau; and when the general passed through Lyons, he told their mutual friend that he had, while in Rome, been in conversation with one of the cardinals on the subject of the possible withdrawal of the French troops from that city. The cardinal said, he hoped the general would apprise them (the cardinals) when they were actually going to leave Rome, for the cardinals would like to leave the same day [hear, hear]. The general said, he thought they had better leave the day before [laughter]. He (Sir Culling) had met at Genoa with a gentleman who had been some months the Prime Minister of the Pope, named Manniani. That gentleman spoke of the present state of things at Rome in terms of disapprobation as strong as could possibly have been used by the most earnest Protestant [hear, hear]. He said the priesthood was infamously conducted,—that the Government was as dreadful as it could possibly be. The utter overthrow of the whole system was sure, and was not far distant. Coming to Tuscany, Sir Culling entered into an interesting statement relating to Rosa and Francesco Madiai, whom he had seen in France. It was a fact that their liberation was effected in consequence of the exertions made by the representative of the Court of France in Tuscany. This interesting couple had now returned to Nice from Geneva, and, during the coming winter, they would determine on some spot for their permanent abode in the future. He hoped they would all endeavour, to the utmost of their ability, to help the fund which was now being contributed under the auspices of the Protestant Alliance, for the support of the Madiai; for their sufferings had been so great that they were now unable to labour in any way for their future maintenance. After a brief allusion to Miss Cunningham's case, Sir Culling came to Piedmont, and gave some very interesting details as to the state of religion there, and the freedom which existed there for religious teaching. There was a church of four or five hundred persons in Turin, presided over by Signior de Sanctis, who was formerly a priest in one of the largest parishes in Rome. As to Turkey,—here again he must abstain from personal and local references; but, happily, he could say, that a Christian movement was going on amongst the Mohammedans of Turkey, very gratifying both in its character and extent. He gave the case of an entire family received into the Protestant Church at Malta, where they had since resided; and the head of that family had stated that there were many Mohammedans who were totally dissatisfied with that religious system, and who were earnestly inquiring into the truths of Christianity. This person had himself been the means of putting several Mohammedans in Turkey in possession of the New Testament, and two of his own sons were now studying in that excellent institute, the Protestant College in Malta. Another case was that of a Turkish judge, in a certain city in Turkey, who had resigned his post, embraced Christianity, and was now living in retirement in another city, which he need not name. There were several other conversions, and in some cases the converts were persons of great wealth and influence. Sir Culling then complained that, notwithstanding all that was said of religious liberty in Turkey—although they might go thither and proselytize to any extent they pleased, from the Greek Church and other sects,—yet that, if a Mohammedan embraced Christianity, he did so at the risk of being immediately beheaded. He thought advantage ought to be taken of the present favourable opportunity to make the very reasonable request, that this oppressive enactment might be altogether abolished.

The Rev. Dr. Steane then came forward, and gave an account of the Homburg Conference, which was held August 26, but as our columns have so recently contained information on this subject we need not repeat it. Dr. Steane then went into some interesting details respecting the Berlin Kirchentag, and gave an account of some important visits to various parts of Europe, where there had been cases of religious persecution—several painful instances of which he detailed—embracing Zurich, Mecklenberg-Schwerin, Hesse-Cassel, and several of the minor German States. He, as a Dissenter, and Mr. Brooke, as a clergyman of the Church of England, gave a practical illustration of the reality of their union, by setting out together on such a mission [cheers]. Dr. Steane stated that the people of Hesse Cassel had the most intense antipathy to the present Government, and longed for an insurrection. Should a revolution take place, M. Hasenpflug would be one of its earliest victims.

The Rev. Mr. Brooke, Rector of Avening, who had accompanied Dr. Steane, corroborated his statements, and added, that the authorities on the Continent appeared to have no idea whatever of religious liberty, as we understand the term.

M. Adolphe Monod made some observations on the state of religious liberty in France, and attributed the annoyance and persecution to the priests rather than to the Emperor:—

He was disposed to think that the personal disposition of the man whom it had pleased God to set at the head of their nation was favourable to religious liberty. A few days ago, a petition was presented by some Baptist brethren, who complained that they were not suffered to hold their religious meetings; he promised that he would attend very particularly to their petition, because it was his will that his subjects should enjoy religious liberty; and upon other occasions he had made similar answers. But he had done more than that. At Nismes, in the south of France, on an occasion when a great number of

Protestant ministers were brought into the presence of the President, as he was then, he expressed his surprise to one of them, as he passed before him, that there was no speech from them. The minister replied that they had been positively wished by the Prefect not to speak to the President. The President said, "I gave no such orders;" and he invited the President of the Consistory of Nismes to dine with him, and wished to have the written speech he had prepared, consenting to see him again the next morning, when he had a conversation of about an hour with him on the subject of religious liberty. The great difficulty, therefore, was with the priests. There were between forty and fifty thousand Roman Catholic priests in France, perhaps about the same number of monks and Jesuits, and men acting in the same way under different names, sixty-five bishops, five cardinals, several archbishops, and nearly the whole of them used their power against religious liberty.

The evening sitting was devoted to Ireland. R. C. L. Bevan, Esq., presided, and adverted at some length to the recent mission of Evangelical ministers to Ireland. The Rev. Dr. Steane then reported the result of the deputation which had waited upon the Foreign Secretary that afternoon.

THE IRISH MISSION.

The Rev. J. Jordan read a report of the proceedings the Irish mission:—

After briefly adverting to its origin, he described how the missionaries were closely watched by the Roman Catholic priesthood in all their proceedings. On their first landing, they were met with decided and acrimonious opposition from the Roman Catholic organs of the press. He acknowledged the assistance which they had received from the various bodies of Protestant Dissenters, and especially from the clergy of the Established Church; but, unfortunately, such measures had been taken for keeping the mission secret, that there was not at first sufficient time properly to allocate those who came over to assist in the mission. The rev. gentleman then proceeded to describe the manner in which the missionaries had been treated. He commented in very strong terms upon the way in which the people were incited to assault their brethren, wherever they went, with hardly an exception. Whenever attempts were made to hold an open-air meeting, the crowds were stirred up to drown the voice of the preacher with shouts and yells. They were assaulted and placed in danger of their lives, and continually threatened with the most outrageous menaces. On several occasions, attempts were made to trample them under the feet of the crowd, in order that it might appear that they had been overwhelmed by the pressure; and, on the Sunday previous to one of the meetings, the priests had been known to say, "Let them down aisy, boys" [laughter]. To such an extent had the missionaries been persecuted, that they might have had to tell of lives sacrificed in the cause, had it not pleased Providence to restrain the power of their persecutors. The rev. gentleman also commented upon the conduct of the magistrates and municipal authorities, who, in some cases, refused to grant them the use of the town halls and court-houses, and who, with ill-concealed satisfaction, advised them not to hold open-air meetings, stating that it would not only be dangerous to themselves, but would inevitably lead to a disturbance. The report then went on to describe the way in which the open-air meetings were interrupted at Limerick, Clonmel, and many other places. In the North, however, and in some instances in the South, the efforts of the mission had been more successful, and progress had been made to a greater extent. With respect to the results of the mission, it was stated that their success, although various, had, upon the whole, been great and most encouraging, while the self-denying labours of the brethren engaged in it were highly eulogized. After alluding to the charge of the Archbishop of Dublin, discountenancing the mission, and which had deterred many of the clergy from assisting its efforts, the report returned thanks for the aid which had been received in many places in Ireland. On the one hand, the mission had clearly unmasked the despotic character and aims of Popery in Ireland; and, on the other, it had been the means of drawing away many souls from its influence.

In conclusion, the rev. gentleman expressed a hope that, and threw out suggestions how, the mission might be made permanent in its operations, and its sphere of labours be much more extended.

The Rev. Messrs. Kerr, Dickenson, Shepherd, Duck, Reading, and Macgill, ministers who had been engaged in the Irish mission, related the particulars of their individual exertions.

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE.

On Friday the members of the Evangelical Alliance resolved themselves into a preliminary Missionary Conference, with a view to the ultimate organization of an Ecumenical Missionary Conference, embracing all the existing Evangelical Missionary Societies.

The Rev. Dr. Duff presided, and concluded his introductory speech by recommending the formation of a central committee in London, for drawing up a series of questions, with a view to elicit a complete mass of information on all points connected with missionary operations, to be forwarded to every missionary throughout the world. Such answers might be carefully digested and analyzed, and would constitute the best materials for discussion by an Ecumenical Missionary Conference.

The Rev. T. R. Brooke, rector of Avening, then proceeded to read his introductory paper, presenting a condensed view of the missionary efforts made by British Christians. He concluded by complaining of the difficulty of procuring statistics, and that the reports of the various societies neglected to give statistical summaries of their position and progress.

A resolution proposing a Conference of the members of Missionary Societies was withdrawn, after some discussion, and another substituted for it, and carried, that a committee be appointed to ascertain how the proposed Conference could be carried into effect. The committee, which is to comprise all the principal friends of Christian missions, with power to add to their number, was then appointed. A resolution, moved by the Rev. J. H. Hinton, "That it be an instruction to the committee to take, in relation to slavery, the ground which had been taken by the

Evangelical Alliance," was eventually withdrawn, and the proceedings were closed with prayer.

PUBLIC MEETING.

In the evening a public meeting of the friends and supporters of the Alliance was held, when the chair was occupied by the Hon. Arthur Kinnaid, M.P., who was supported by the Hon. and Rev. Baptist W. Noel, A.M., Rev. Dr. Bunting, Rev. William Bunting, Rev. Dr. Duff, Rev. Dr. Blackwood, Rev. Robert Eckett, Rev. W. H. Rule, Rev. Mr. Thelwall, Rev. Owen Clarke, George Hitchcock, Esq., of St. Paul's Churchyard, Admiral V. Harcourt, &c.

The Chairman, in vindication of the Alliance, said it had been the means of rescuing some from the hands of the persecutors, and of encouraging others in the endurance of the persecutions under which they were suffering, showing them that, at all events, there was a body of Christian men who deeply sympathized with them in their afflictions—who prayed for them—and who would use every possible instrumentality for their relief [hear, hear].

The Rev. N. T. Birks, of Liverpool, then delivered an address, in which he reviewed the various fears which had been expressed by cautious people on the Alliance, and traced the history of the Alliance, showing that those fears had not been realized.

The Chairman then announced, that they had to regret the loss, by death, of Sir William Bethem, one of the Vice-Presidents, and who, indeed, would have presided that evening had he been spared.

The Hon. and Rev. Baptist W. Noel, A.M., lamented the disunion among the Christians in this country, a disunion which, when he witnessed its evil effects on the world around them, he hesitated not to pronounce "scandalous" [hear, hear]. This union was a positive command of Christ; and let those who would not unite with them in the Alliance, show some more excellent way [hear, hear]. He contended, that there were many happy results arising out of the union. Who would have known of the persecutions in Sweden, had it not been for this Alliance? In his concluding remarks, he touched on the controversy respecting the separation of Church and State, as one great obstacle to Christian union, from the narrowness of the spirit in which it was sometimes carried on. The war must be waged, but let it be done in a manner becoming those who professed to have only the glory of God in view. Let all exaggeration and bitterness be avoided; let it be a controversy of pure argument; for even a good man, when attacked in a bad spirit, felt a species of reaction, which nullified the legitimate effects of their arguments, how valid soever they might be.

After a few words from the Rev. Dr. Duff and the Rev. Mr. Alexander, of Londonderry, the proceedings were brought to a close by the Doxology being sung, and prayer offered by the Rev. Mr. Burr, of the Established Church at Londonderry. The Rev. Dr. Bunting dismissed the assembly by a parting Benediction.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

On Wednesday morning the Assembly met in Grosvenor-street Chapel, the Rev. John Alexander presiding. The Rev. G. Smith introduced to the assembly the Rev. John Clarke, Secretary of the French Canadian Society, and then moved:—

That this assembly hail with pleasure the presence of the Rev. William Swan, the Secretary of the Congregational Union of Scotland; would express its sympathy with the Rev. Dr. Wardlaw, who is prevented by sickness from being present at this autumnal meeting and taking part in its services, and would assure the churches associated in the Scottish Union, of the fraternal regards and concern of the English Congregational churches for their welfare.

In the course of his speech he stated that Dr. Wardlaw had undertaken to preach the sermon at Cavendish chapel, but he has been prevented by a very severe illness—an illness from which he has not a strong hope he will fully recover. He praised the Scotch Congregational Union, and the triumph of Voluntarism in that part of the kingdom.

The resolution having been seconded and carried, the Rev. W. Swan read a paper on the "Mutual Relations of Churches."

Mr. Henry Bateman moved the following resolution:—

That the cordial thanks of this assembly are hereby presented to the Rev. W. Swan, for his valuable paper "On the Mutual Relation of Churches," and that he be requested to place it at the disposal of the Committee for publication with the minutes of the sessions; and that this assembly would employ the present opportunity of urging upon the county and other associations, and upon our pastors and churches generally, the importance of extending our denominations in large towns, by collecting congregations, and building suitable places of worship.

Mr. Rice Hopkins, in seconding the resolution, alluded to the success which had followed the building of new chapels in London. By means of the London Congregational Chapel Building Society, sixteen large places had been wholly or in part erected. Some ten or eleven had been opened, and all of them were very speedily filled with respectable audiences [hear, hear]. The Board of British Missions, moreover, had found it easier to prosecute their labours in large towns, and therefore they have come to a resolution to assist in propagating the gospel in those localities.

The Rev. Newman Hall did not think Congregationalism so suitable for scattered populations as for large towns. He would suggest, moreover, that much good might be done by the introduction into some of the churches of a little of the liturgical element. He knew some enlightened men who loved the principles of Congregationalism, but could not comfortably, and with so much profit as they desired, worship in churches where no liturgy was used. Then there were many people who could not, with much spiritual benefit to themselves, belong to any church where the practice of holding class-meetings was not recognised and adopted. Why, therefore, should not Congrega-

tional churches establish class-meetings, and thus secure these people to themselves? [hear, hear.]

The Rev. Dr. Vaughan thought that any failure of Congregationalism in scattered populations arose out of the improper working of the machinery, not the system itself. There were some fifteen or sixteen hundred Congregational ministers in this country—nearly as many as the Methodists have—and each man is the pastor of what is, or ought to be, a centre of influence on the surrounding districts; and he did think that, if the thing were gone into, it would be seen that the amount of village operations going on among them was greater than many supposed [hear, hear]. Still he thought it important they should seek to extend their principles in large towns; though he knew some such places where there were no more Congregational churches now than there were thirty-five years ago. How has this state of things been brought about?

A plan is being pursued which will not work well unless we unmake our present Congregationalism. There is a craving both by ministers and people after large chapels [hear, hear]. Now there is a reason to believe that these large structures have been our weakness, and tended to diminish our numbers. This is not the case in all large towns; it is not so in Manchester; and I believe that the ministers who have become mixed up with this state of things, if they could go back fifty years, and had to begin again, they would look further, and be desirous of making a law which should prohibit the erection of any chapel that should seat more than 1,000 people [laughter and cheers]. If we are largely to have our congregations in the hands of one man, then the churches must be smaller, or the pastorship will of necessity be little more than a name [hear, hear, and no, no]. This matter has been upon me night and day; it has weighed upon my mind for months, and I feel that I must now dare to give utterance to my thoughts [cheers]. Do not suppose that I imagine that I have made any discovery, because I know that there are many men of the same opinion with myself upon the subject [hear]. There are men who have contributed hundreds of pounds towards the erection of these large places who now believe that the system which they encouraged and assisted in carrying out is a great practical mistake. I should like to do one of two things—either to compel all the congregations worshipping in those large structures to have several pastors, who should form a sort of congregational presbytery, and who should work out from a great centre, and evangelize the neighbourhood; or, if that could not be done, I should like to have a vice into which I would put those large churches and screw them up, so as to reduce them to proper dimensions [laughter and cheers]—so that by possibility there would be only 1,000 people able to obtain access within their walls [laughter].

The Rev. Dr. Massie believed it would be found, upon proper investigation, that the Congregationalists were doing as much work, and in a manner quite as efficient, in the rural districts, as the Primitive Methodists, to which reference had been made by Mr. Hall, or any other body of Christians [hear, hear]. It would be well, however, that there should be a greater concentration of effort.

The Rev. R. A. Fraser, M.A., with exception to Dr. Vaughan's remarks, thought that his own exercise of talent might have led him to draw a different conclusion, and he hoped that the rev. doctor would feel some sympathy with ministers in reference to the dimensions of their chapels.

The Rev. T. Binney commenced by alluding to the desirableness of some means of terminating disagreements in the churches.

But we have no appeal, and we won't have. There is no alternative but just for the people and the minister to fight it out in the face of the public, and publish the matter in a pamphlet, or in a newspaper.

With respect to Mr. Hall's suggestions as to a liturgy, he said:—

I wish the principle could be more clearly recognised, that if a congregation wished to adopt a particular course, it should not be thought to be inconsistent, because their form of worship might be different in some respects to that in general use. I only wish that Mr. Hall had gone a little further, and had suggested, that if a congregation chose to have a large place of worship, the principle should be extended to two or three congregations, and they work together harmoniously. We might have a plurality of pastors and elders; and since every man has not the same gift, three or four congregations might be united. We might thus consolidate our various powers, and have the ministers in common, and employ those various gifts that Christ has given severally unto us. I should like, sir, to direct the attention of the brethren to the question of liturgies, and to urge upon them the necessity of greater spirituality in the devotional parts of our services [hear, hear]. In this we are very deficient [hear, hear]. We are, perhaps, inferior to every Christian denomination in this respect. As I said last Thursday, at Peckham, where I had the pleasure to preach an Ordination sermon, we, as Congregationalists, as a body, are very deficient in the spirit of devotional reverence; and I think that the want of it is most exhibited in Ordination services, and that want chiefly among ministers [hear, hear]. My heart has often been torn at an ordination. The ministers seem to think they have nothing to do with the matter of worship. Whenever there is a little bit of a hymn sung, they seem to think it is quite another part of the service, and out they go into the vestry for a bit of cake, half a glass of wine, or a whole one [laughter, and cheers]—and sometimes all this is exhibited within sight of the congregation. They seem to have no respect to the deep devotion which should characterise the service, and no regard to the example they set to the people, but they seem to imagine that the whole of the devotional service may be trampled under foot. I beseech my brethren to look at this subject [hear, hear]. I am not going to say that liturgies would increase a spirit of devotion [hear, hear]. I don't know, but I think that if the people were brought more into active employment with the service, it might react upon our own feelings as ministers, and tend to reproduce a like spirit among the people. There is one thing I did not like in Mr. Hall's speech, and that is—I should think

that, if any congregation is to adopt a liturgy, or to make any alteration in its devotional services, it should be entirely spontaneous, as the outgrowth of religious life, and ought not to be done for the mere sake of attraction and for the purpose of gaining influence [cheers]. When a young man, I had an impression—an erroneous one, perhaps—that no man had a right to appear in the pulpit without a band and gown; but I have since altered my mind upon this subject. In like manner a prejudice may exist in favour of the Liturgy in some congregations where it might doubtless be favourably adopted [hear, hear, and cheers].

After a few words from the Rev. J. Glyde, of Bradford, the Rev. Dr. Halley rose and objected to Mr. Binney's sweeping charge against ministers:—

I can only say, for myself, that I never left any ordination service to drink wine in the vestry [laughter and cheers]. I cannot pretend to say what has been done at all the ordination services which have been held during the last few years; but I do not believe that the practice to which Mr. Binney has alluded is a common thing [hear, hear, and cheers].

He differed from Dr. Vaughan in his views about large chapels. Small chapels in large towns never succeeded [hear, hear]. This had been proved by actual experience. Chapels which would hold 1,200 people were not a whit too large for populous towns [cheers]. He did not know that either a liturgy or class-meetings were contrary to Congregational principles; but he did not think a liturgy would improve their spirituality, and he should never wish to see the observance adopted amongst them. Let us stand by free prayer [loud cheers].

The Rev. Baldwin Brown thought they might, where desirable, have a portion of the service liturgical, and a portion free; but how were they to have liberty of action?

It is very easy for Dr. Halley to say, if Mr. Hall does adopt a liturgy, I shall still regard him as a Congregational brother. But at what cost is a man to do it? [“hear,” and cheers.] We are Independents, yet I have long had the conviction that it requires desperate courage to be an Independent amongst Independents [cheers]. It is not that any man can actually interfere to prevent the adoption of any course of action in which a minister of independent spirit may think it good to engage if he is but in sympathy with his congregation; but much may be done by the brethren around him to make his position most unpleasant [hear, hear]. If we have confidence in the man, let him have his own way [hear, hear].

As to Dr. Vaughan's remarks, he thought where they had men who could command a congregation of 2,000, there was no reason for screwing it up to smaller dimensions. He thought they should insist more fully that the ministry was a profession which would do honour to any man who came into it. After some further observations, Mr. Brown sat down amidst general applause.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

“The State of Voluntary Protestant Churches on the Continent” was the subject of the next paper, read by the Rev. E. T. Prust; upon which the Rev. Mr. Shedlock, of Boulogne, moved, and the Rev. J. Kelly seconded, the following resolution, which was adopted with much cordiality:—

That this assembly presents its best thanks to the Rev. E. T. Prust, for his deeply interesting paper now read, and requests him to place it at the disposal of the committee for publication; and would cheerfully acknowledge the claims which the Voluntary Protestant churches of the Continent have on the sympathy, prayers, and pecuniary assistance of English Christians generally, and of those of the Congregational order especially.

Mr. E. Swaine then moved, and the Rev. George Smith seconded, a proposal for the formation of a society, to be designated the “Congregational Pastors' Insurance Aid Society”—which we have not room to describe at present.

The dinner was held in the school-room, and presided over by Mr. Sidebottom, who concluded his speech after dinner by reading the first sentiment, “Sympathy for our churches at Newcastle and the neighbouring towns,” and called upon the Rev. A. Jack and the Rev. R. M'All [cheers].

Rev. A. Jack and the Rev. R. M'All briefly spoke to the sentiment, and promised, that if next year the Union would assemble in Newcastle, it might rely on a warm and a hearty reception.

The subject of the Milton Club was introduced by Mr. Bateman, who warmly urged it upon the attention of ministers and gentlemen present. Mr. Hunter responded to the sentiment, “The Lancashire County Union.”

THE BIBLE SOCIETY.

At Thursday morning's sitting, the Rev. Dr. Campbell, who was received with loud applause, moved the following resolution:—

That this assembly, believing in the divine authority and sufficiency of the sacred Scriptures as a revelation from God, recognising the obligation of mankind to promote their circulation, and to study their contents, would embrace the opportunity now appropriately furnished of congratulating the committee of the British and Foreign Bible Society, in this its year of Jubilee, on its successful endeavours to diffuse the word of life in all lands, and in all languages, and on the wonderful openings now presented for its further distribution, especially among the millions of the inhabitants of China, and would earnestly hope that the zeal and prayerful liberality of all denominations of Christians may enable the society adequately to avail itself of its present facilities for greatly extended usefulness, and that the blessing of God may increasingly rest on its valuable labours.

He strongly urged the claims of the Million Testament scheme, and should like it all the better if it were a hundred million. Now was the time for men of opulence—the merchant princes—those who owed something to China—to show their gratitude [cheers]. He would that every individual who ever sipped a cup of good Chinese tea should resolve to send in return a sip from the cup of Inspiration [loud cheers]. To a considerable extent this was being done; and even the children were giving two, three, four, or five hundred copies to this good work [hear, hear]. He had no fear that they should realize the million copies; and he hoped that they should not stop there [hear,

hear, and cheers]. He hoped they would support the Bible Society, more glorious in its results than the pouring out of the Spirit on the day of Pentecost, by their advocacy, their contributions, and their progress. He rejoiced to live in an era when they should probably be able to record the conversion of China from idolatry to truth.

William Wilson, Esq., without making a speech, seconded the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

The Rev. John Kelly moved:—

That this assembly, firmly attached as it is to the great principles of civil and religious liberty, views, with the deepest regret and indignation, their repeated infraction in Tuscany and other Roman Catholic States of Europe; and, while cheerfully according the right of free opinion and speech to all persons in this land, would solemnly protest against any invasion of this sacred privilege in other countries, and would ask respectfully, but firmly, of the British Government, that it would continue to protest against the infraction of that liberty of our countrymen, when resident in Continental countries, which is so unrestrictedly enjoyed by all foreigners while sojourning in Great Britain.

There was nothing in the resolution to which any of the Peace Society men—and they were all Peace brethren [hear, hear, and laughter]—could make the slightest objection [hear, hear]. It was not proposed to ask for any armaments to set all things right, but surely it was the duty of the Government to protest against a course of proceeding so irritating and so annoying in every point of view as that which had been so recently pursued in Tuscany [hear, hear], and he was quite sure, that if their governments were firm, and were respectfully to pursue that dignified course which ever ought to distinguish their proceedings, their interference could not be in vain [hear, hear].

The Rev. G. W. Conder, in seconding the resolution, said he felt anxious to remove what he believed to be a false impression resting on the minds of some persons—that those who advocated Peace principles could not speak out upon this question of continental tyranny. Now, he believed no one felt a keener aversion to the conduct of the Duke of Tuscany, the Spanish authorities, and others walking in their steps, than himself; yet he altogether deprecated the tone which had been assumed by certain parties in the matter, who represented that it would be an insult for the British Government to ask twice for the liberation of a British prisoner from the goals of the despot. Those men would retaliate in the same spirit which they condemn [hear, hear]. At the same time, every proper means ought to be resorted to to secure that liberty for themselves which they accorded to others.

The resolution was unanimously carried.

THE LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Rev. Henry R. Reynolds, B.A., moved:—

That this assembly, having regard to the peculiar openings now presented for the diffusion of Christian truth in the vast regions of China, is called upon to congratulate the directors and supporters of the London Missionary Society, on the distinguished honour put upon that institution, in its having been the means of translating the Holy Scriptures into the Chinese language, and to have assisted in carrying a revised edition of the New Testament through the press, at the time when barriers to its circulation have been unexpectedly removed; and feeling the importance of following the written word with the living voice of the preacher, this assembly rejoices in the avowed intention of the society to send out additional missionaries to preach the gospel in China.

In the course of an able speech in reference to the claims of China, he said he thought the present was the right moment for their effectual interference. That assembly, in the most important and striking manner, congratulated the London Missionary Society, not only upon the intention of sending Bibles, but men [loud cheers]. The great demand of the times, the great demand of the churches, and of the mission field, was for men [hear, hear]—and there could be no assembly of men more competent to consider this great demand than the Congregational Union of England and Wales [cheers].

The Rev. Baldwin Brown, B.A., seconded the resolution.

The Rev. W. Milne, M.A., supported it by giving a history of Christian operations in China, and their bearing on the present revolution. The chief leader of the rebellion he considered to be influenced both by truth and error. Much of his teaching respecting himself strongly resembled the code and pretensions of Mohammed. He kept a large harem, and forbade anybody to cast an eye upon his women, if they should chance to be in any public street, on pain of instant death, and demanded for himself the honour and obedience due only to God. On the other hand, he recognised many of the great truths of the gospel, and taught them to his followers,—such as the unity and fatherhood of God, and the brotherhood of humanity, in every portion of the world. On the whole, he augured the very best consequences to China from the wonderful events now transpiring in that land, combined with the efforts which are being put forth by the Christian people of England to send the people Bibles and missions.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

The Rev. G. Smith then moved, and Mr. E. Baines seconded, a resolution proposing that the next autumnal meeting should be held at Newcastle, which was adopted. The Rev. A. Jack, the Rev. R. M'All, the Rev. E. Bewlay, and the Rev. Mr. Redford, from Newcastle, Shields, and Sunderland, respectively responded to the resolution, promising the Union the most cordial welcome.

YOUNG MEN.

The Rev. Henry Allen, of Islington, then came forward and read a lengthened paper on “Young Men in Relation to our Denomination,” which excited extraordinary interest. At its conclusion,

Mr. Samuel Morley proposed the following resolution:—

That the best thanks of this assembly be offered to the Rev. Henry Allen, for his valuable paper on “Young Men, in Relation to our Denomination,” with a request that he will place it at the disposal of the committee for circulation, under the impres-

sion that its practical suggestions are well adapted to promote the religious welfare of that important class of the community to which this paper refers.

Mr. Morley dwelt upon the beneficial influence of such organizations as the Young Men's Christian Association in London, which had been originated by young men themselves. They had established Bible-classes, and had meetings for conference; and, as the result of these conferences, they set themselves to the circulation of tracts, and the visitation of those of their own class, in the various establishments with which they were connected, whose welfare they had at heart.

It is remarkable to observe, when such an association is established, what an amount of available talent there is in connexion with our churches. I believe that our ministers generally have no idea of it. I have lived to see the value of earnestness in any engagements with which I have had to do, and I would urge on our country churches to look at young men as objects of great attraction. . . . When you look at the position of our young men, both in London and in all our great commercial towns, it appears to me that nothing but the interposition of God can save them from vice and immorality. I therefore do most respectfully ask for this subject a serious and thoughtful discussion, and have great pleasure in moving the resolution [cheers].

Mr. Perry, of Chelmsford, gave a very interesting account of his experience in connexion with young men, many of whom he had induced to become Sunday-school teachers. He had built a class-room, in which about 40 young men assembled periodically, and he had been obliged to decline taking more for want of room. He had found kindness to be the key to the human heart:—

You must gain the confidence and the affections of the young before you can work upon them. I have received some notorious characters, but I have completely subdued them. How has this been done? Just by showing myself that I am upon a level with them,—that in a spiritual point of view we stand upon the same platform. I seek not theirs, but them. I want to bring their souls to Christ; and you may soon convince a young man that you feel interested about him.

Some further interesting discussion took place on the subject of Mr. Allen's paper, which was highly praised on all sides. In the course of some remarks the Rev. J. P. Palmers, in allusion to the deleterious influence of theatrical amusements on young men, said that there were Dissenting ministers of the Independent denomination in London who went to theatres. This statement created much sensation. Dr. Campbell protested against it, and called for an investigation. Eventually a committee consisting of the Revs. J. Alexander, John Kelly, Dr. Vaughan, J. J. Brown, and George Smith, was appointed to confer with Mr. Palmer, and they reported that only one case could be produced, and that was not a London minister, and that Mr. P. regretted that he inadvertently, on such slender grounds, should have conveyed so general a representation as he unhappily did.

The Rev. J. Corbin subsequently read a paper on the state of the churches, which caused a discussion, in which the Revs. Dr. Vaughan, Baldwin Brown, Dr. Massie, and others, took part. The session of the assembly was then closed.

At the dinner which followed resolutions respecting the Sunday-school Union, thanking the chairman, and the hospitality of their friends at Manchester, were adopted. A sentiment, expressive of deep sympathy with Messrs. Fletcher and Poore, on their approaching departure from Manchester, was next spoken to by the Rev. John Kelly, Mr. T. Barnes, M.P., Rev. Dr. Vaughan, and the Rev. Thomas James, which terminated the proceedings.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

A public meeting was held in Cavendish-street chapel, on Tuesday evening, for the exposition and enforcement of Congregational principles, and the advocacy of British missions. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Samuel Morley, of London (who presided); the Rev. James Parsons; Mr. J. Buchanan, of Whitby; the Rev. Baldwin Brown, of London; the Rev. A. M. Henderson, of Cork; the Rev. Newman Hall; the Rev. Dr. Massie; and the Rev. Thomas James. Resolutions were passed expressive of confidence in the principles of Independent Congregationalism, and of hope for the continued and increased success of British missions. The meeting was exceedingly crowded.

On Thursday evening, a public meeting of the friends and promoters of the English Chapel-building Society was held in Grosvenor-street chapel, Piccadilly. The meeting was addressed by Mr. James Kershaw, M.P., who presided; the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, the Rev. Mr. Fraser, and other gentlemen. The Secretary of the association read a paper, in which it was stated that the object of the society was to give systematic and general action to efforts which had hitherto been local and isolated, and to extend to the whole kingdom the benefits which had resulted from similar organizations in London and Lancashire. It was proposed, if possible, to erect fifty chapels in the first five years, and it would be gratifying to the meeting to learn that between £10,000 and £11,000 had already been raised, so that the society could depend on an annual income of £2,000 for the five years. To meet all the claims upon them, they would require an income of £10,000 a year, which, if it could be realized, would enable them to erect 100 chapels in the period mentioned. Twenty chapels in various parts of the kingdom had already applied for aid, and this had been granted to about half of them.

On Thursday evening there was a special designation service, to set apart the Rev. J. L. Poore and the Rev. R. Fletcher for the missionary service in Australia; and a public breakfast, on Friday morning, in Cavendish-street lecture-room, in support of the Congregational Board of Education. Thomas Barnes, Esq., M.P., presided; and the Rev. James Parsons, Mr. Morley, the Rev. Dr. Massie, Rev. G. B. John-

son, Rev. John Kelly, Rev. H. R. Reynolds, Rev. Dr. Halley, Mr. Sidebottom, and Mr. E. Baines, were speakers. The spirit of the meeting was excellent, and the utmost confidence was expressed in the Board of Education and its training institutions.

MR. COBDEN, AND OTHERS, ON EDUCATION.

There have been two important gatherings, during the past week, in connexion with Mechanics' Institutes, and on the general subject of education. One of these meetings was held to re-open the Barnsley Mechanics' Institution. At this, Mr. Cobden was the chief speaker; and his address has been the subject of high praise by journalists of all parties.

After some introductory remarks, of a local character, Mr. Cobden asked, for what were these institutes established, and are they still necessary?—

Not as a system of education, but to supplement the want of education; and we want the education still which we wanted when these institutions were founded. I know this is made a vexed question, and, to some extent, a party question. I never regarded it as a party question. I don't care through what it comes—give me a Voluntary education or State education, but education I want [applause]. I can't accept statistics to prove the number of people who attend schools—to prove that the people are educated, because I can't shut my eyes to what is evident to my senses, that the people are not educated—that they are not being educated [applause]. I was talking only yesterday with a merchant in Manchester, who told me that he had attended at the swearing-in of the militia in one of the largest manufacturing towns in England, and that not one-half of those sworn-in could read, and not one-third could sign their name [hear, hear]. Now, without wishing to utter any fanatical opinion with regard to the Peace question, I must say, with all sincerity, I think it would have been much better to have handed these young men over to the schoolmaster rather than the drill-sergeant [hear, hear, and laughter]—for I think the safety of this country would be more promoted by teaching them to read and write, than by teaching them to face about right rightly [much laughter]. I was talking this subject over to an old friend of mine at Preston, and he said, "I attended the coroner one day last week at an inquest. There were thirteen jurymen; five signed their names, and eight made their mark." Can I shut my eyes to what is going on around us? I cannot, and therefore I say we are not an educated people; and I say, it is our duty—and our safety calls upon us to see that the people are educated; and I know of no place more fitting to discuss this subject than in such a meeting as this, because I take it for granted you are all interested in it; you all admit the deficiency of juvenile instruction, or you would not have attended to the defective adult education. We are not an educated people, and I have no hesitation in asserting that, in point of school learning, the mass of the English people are the least instructed of any Protestant community in the world [shame]. I say that deliberately. I remember quite well at the time of the Hungarian emigration into this country after the revolution, a very distinguished minister or religious teacher of Hungary was talking to me on the subject of our education, and I told him a large portion of our people could neither read nor write. He could not believe it, and said, "If it is true a large proportion of your people can neither read nor write, how do you maintain your constitutional franchises and your political liberties? Why, it is evident to me that your institutions are rather a head of your people, and that this self-government is only a habit with you." It is a habit, and we will cling to it, and hold it, but I want a safer foundation. I want to have our self-government a habit of appreciation—something our people will be proud of, and not simply a habit—and there is no security unless it is based upon a wider intelligence of the people than we meet with at the present moment.

Ignorance met them at every step—confronted them in every effort to ameliorate the condition or habits of the people.

Why do people live in bad cellars, surrounded by filth and disease? You may say it is their poverty; but their poverty comes as much from their ignorance as their vices, and their vices often spring from their ignorance [applause]. The great mass of the people don't know what the sanitary laws are; they don't know that ventilation is good for health; they don't know that the miasma of unscavenged and unsewered streets, or impure alleys, produces cholera and disease. If they did know these things, people would take care they inhabited better houses; and if people were only more careful in their habits than they are, and husbanded their means, they might get into better houses [hear, hear, and cheers]. And when I hear persons advocate temperance—which I, as one of the most temperate men in the world, always like to hear advocated—I say the best way is to afford them some other occupation or recreation than that which is derived only through their senses; and the best way is to give them education. If the working man is deprived of these recreations, which consist of the intellectual and moral enjoyments that education and good training give, he naturally falls into the excitement of sensual indulgence, because excitement all human beings must have [hear, hear].

"Strikes" formed another illustration of popular ignorance; and the example of America, where "you never hear of the total cessation from labour of a whole community," was adduced as a proof that strikes arise from ignorance:—

I see in different parts of the country a great social movement going on between different classes of the community. For instance, in the town of Preston you have 20,000 to 30,000 persons out of work, and there is in that place not a chimney but is cold and cheerless—neither smoke nor steam cheering your eyes. Look at the destitution and misery caused by laying a town in this state for a month or six weeks. Why is this? I answer, it springs from ignorance [hear, hear]. Not ignorance confined to one party in the dispute [applause]. It is ignorance on both sides, and deplorable is its results [renewed applause]. But do you suppose that when the world becomes more enlightened that you will have such a scene as this, of a whole community stopping its labours for a month or six weeks, and creating miseries, immorality, and destitution that may not be removed for five or

six years to come? [hear, hear.] When masters and men understand the principles upon which the rate of wages and profits depend, they will settle their matters and arrange their differences in a less bungling way than that which now brings so much misery upon all parties to the quarrel [applause]. Even now, however, we see great progress in this respect. I remember the time when the cessation of labour by 25,000 persons would have led to riot and disturbance and the calling out of the military. This is not to be seen now [hear, hear]. We see passive resistance and firmness to an extent which, if they had policy and propriety at their back, would be highly desirable and most commendable [hear, hear]. But, gentlemen, we shall probably live to see the time when another step will be taken onward—you will live to see the time when men will settle these matters, not by resorting to blind passion, by vituperation and counter-vituperation—when the question of wages will be left to the master and man to arrange according to their own interest—when the whole question of wages, and the rate of wages, will be settled just as quietly as you now see the price of any article fixed in the public market [hear, hear]. We do not find that people who go to market with cattle, potatoes, or anything else, strike against the buyers of those cattle or potatoes. We do not find that the seller of the cattle strikes against the seller of the potatoes, and that the buyers and the eaters of the potatoes stand quietly by and starve while the potatoes rot. We do not find men doing these things; but we find that it is by the higgling of the market they tranquilly decide its price; they fix the price of the day, and the whole thing is easily settled without that irritation and waste of property, without that misery and suffering, which I consider most painful, and as a sign of the intelligence of the day, the most discreditable—that struggle between master and workman which is passing in our time [applause]. Now, mark, I am not saying one word of the merits of either side on this question. Both parties think themselves right, and both are, no doubt, right in attempting to get the best they can, the one for his labour, and the other for his capital; but if there were more intelligence upon this question—if the laws were better understood which decide, finally and inexorably, the relative value of labour, as well as of everything else, these matters would be settled without that hideous amount of suffering which I deplore to see accompanying these strikes and troubles in the manufacturing districts [applause].

In another respect, we were inferior to the Americans—even in the progress of the mechanical arts:—

When I came through Manchester the other day I found many of the most influential manufacturing capitalists talking very gravely upon a report which had reached them from a gentleman who was selected by the Government to go out to America to make a report upon the Great Exhibition in New York. That gentleman was one of the most eminent of the mechanicians and machine-makers of Manchester, employing a very large number of workpeople, renowned for the quality of his productions, and known in the scientific world, and whose scientific attainments were appreciated from the Astronomer Royal downwards. He has been over to New York to report upon the progress of mechanics and mechanical arts in the United States [hear, hear]. Well, he has returned. No report from him to the Government has as yet been published to the country. But it has oozed out in Manchester among his neighbours that he has found in America a degree of intelligence among the manufacturing operatives, and a state of things in the mechanical arts, which has convinced him that if we are to hold our own—if we are not to fall back in the rear in the race of nations—we must educate our people, so as to put them upon a level with the more educated artisans of the United States [applause]. We shall all have an opportunity of judging of this matter when that report is issued; but sufficient has already oozed out amongst his neighbours to excite a great interest, and I may say some alarm.

The remainder of this speech was to the effect, that an old country was under no necessity to fall behind a young one; but should continue to be the teacher of its children, as Athens was of all her colonies. Mr. Cobden concluded:—"I can only say, whether you look at this question of education in the interest of morality or religion, as affecting the happiness, the interest, or the welfare of society—in whatever way you regard this question—you may depend upon it the very highest interest—the dignity, honour, and happiness of the people, are bound up with it" [loud and long continued applause].

The second gathering was at Tamworth, and was a double celebration—that of the Tamworth Library, and that of the Midland Counties Association of Mechanics' Institutes. Its chief interest lay in the peculiar association of persons—Lord Yarborough, Sir Robert Peel, Mr. Monckton Milnes, Mr. Adderley, Mr. Recorder Hill, Dr. Lyon Playfair, and others. These gentlemen made good, but not extraordinary speeches. Sir Robert Peel is the President of the association for the coming year. The most noticeable thing in his speech was an attack on strikes. More confident in his political economy than Mr. Cobden, Sir Robert denounced the conduct of the operatives, while he left untouched that of the masters. Dr. Lyon Playfair made a practical speech, recommending courses of lectures in regular order on art or science, instead of lectures capriciously selected on the topics uppermost in the public mind at the time. At the business meeting of the delegates it was resolved that this course should be recommended to the institutes forming the association.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

A very numerous meeting of the friends and supporters of this society was held in the Egyptian Hall, at the Mansion-house, on Tuesday last, to celebrate the jubilee year of the institution, the society having been founded in March, 1804. The more especial object of the meeting was to raise a fund to be appropriated to the furtherance of the following objects:—

1. The adoption, as far as practicable, of an extensive and efficient system of colportage throughout Great Britain in the year of jubilee: the supply of emigrants; together with special grants of Bibles and Testaments to prisons, schools, missions,

and other charitable and benevolent institutions in this country.
2. Special grants to Ireland, in such ways as may hereafter be determined upon.
3. Special efforts in India, Australia, and other British colonies, by agencies, grants, or otherwise.
4. Special grants to China, and such other parts of the world as may appear open to special operations.
5. The establishment of a special and separate fund, from the annual produce of which pecuniary aid may be granted, at the discretion of the committee, to persons in the employ of the society, including the colporteurs abroad; and to their widows and children, when in circumstances to require such aid.

The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor presided.

His lordship said he felt highly honoured in being permitted to assist in promoting the glorious object of the society, that of providing for every human being capable of reading the bible, a bible to read. The society called upon every section of the Christian world, without compromising their own particular opinions on points of doctrine or of creed, to combine in diffusing the light of God's truth throughout the earth. He rejoiced that, while so much of their time had been given up to religious controversy, and while ignorance and immorality had been suffered to press themselves upon their attention, without any determination, so far as the church was concerned, to supply a proper antidote, this society thrived among them as a living protest against their many divisions and diversity of opinions, calling upon all who espoused the cause of Christ in sincerity and truth to join in one powerful and unanimous effort to insure that there should not exist one human being who should not have a bible to read [cheers]. There were many circumstances of peculiar interest connected with the present meeting. It was the jubilee year of the society. He considered that great advantages resulted from the recurrence of certain periods, which afforded men an opportunity to take a retrospect of what they had done, to examine into the nature of the objects they proposed to themselves, and to consider whether they were really good objects, and whether the means they had adopted to secure them were efficient. Looking at the subject in this point of view, he would ask whether there was anything in the present state of the world which did not make the circulation of the Bible as paramount a duty now as when the society was first formed? It was true the exertions of the society had been very great. There were in connexion with the parent society no less than 3,819 branch societies in Great Britain and the colonies; in Ireland 503; and abroad 4,000; making a total of 8,322. When the society was first established there were about fifty translations of the Bible; now by means of this society, the Bible had been translated into 150 languages. The circulation of the Bible by means of this society, and of other societies in connexion with it was not less than 45,000,000, and it was not too much to say that by the same agency the records of inspired truth had been rendered accessible to about 600,000,000 of the human family [cheers]. He could not sit down without alluding to China. Every one was rejoicing that China was at last open to the world. But for what did people rejoice? Because it would save them 6d. in the pound on their tea. But if men of this world, because of the increase in their traffic, rejoiced at the opening of China, what, he would ask ought the feelings of Christian men to be when they contemplated the great work to be achieved among so many millions of the human race, amid whom the seeds of civilization had been sown for ages, and by whom the arts and sciences had been cultured ages before the inhabitants of these islands had emerged from barbarism? These facts were calculated to encourage the society to persevere in their efforts to introduce Christianity, pure and undefiled, into China; and he, therefore, thought it a noble proposal of the committee of the society that 1,000,000 copies of the New Testament in the Chinese language should be printed without delay. He held in his hand a copy of the work, and which could be obtained for 4d. He thought the city of London ought to provide these 1,000,000 Testaments. It could not be said that they were not wealthy enough [cheers].

Mr. Brown, secretary, here presented the Lord Mayor with a Bible, in commemoration of his lordship having presided on so interesting an occasion in the history of the society.

The Rev. Robert Frost, another of the secretaries, read an interesting statement of facts respecting the society's operations.

The Earl of Shaftesbury (President of the society) then addressed the meeting, and in the course of his observations said, that looking at the dark times that now surrounded them, and at the gloomy prospect for the future on the continent, and, not without fear, even in our own country, he confessed that he did regard this society, and the hundred other societies of a kindred character, as the conservative principle of the state of things under which they now lived, and that, by the instrumentality of those societies, the present generation would not only be able to enjoy those things themselves, but transmit them in security, if not altogether in peace, to those who came after them [cheers]. He rejoiced that, when the great empire of China was opened, England had not been backward in considering the best means of carrying the word of God to hundreds of millions of human beings living in that distant country. But what they had chiefly to rejoice at was, that the old wall of bigotry and superstition had broken down, that access had been gained to a mighty empire, and that it was now open to that great movement, in which they trusted they would be joined by their brethren in the United States, whereby they might be able to offer the gospel as a witness to a country—almost the only one in which the gospel was not a witness, and then, God be praised, the end would come [cheers].

The Hon. and Rev. Montagu Villiers moved a resolution in support of the special objects of the society during this the jubilee year, and entered into an

elaborate defence of the Scriptures in their fullness, sufficiency and simplicity.

The Rev. Dr. Tidman, Secretary to the London Missionary Society, seconded the resolution in an able speech. He exhibited a copy of the neat, portable little edition of the Testament, which it is proposed to circulate, and indignantly denied that Mr. Prichard had, as had been extensively reported, turned Papist, and become a priest of the Catholic church. That was totally false [applause].

Samuel Gurney, Esq., and Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Wire addressed the meeting, and R. L. Bevan, Esq., moved, and the Rev. Dr. Beecham seconded, a vote of thanks to the chairman, and thus the proceedings terminated. Several large subscriptions were announced.

LORD PALMERSTON ON THE PROPOSED NATIONAL FAST.

At the monthly meeting of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, on Wednesday, the Moderator read a reply received from Lord Palmerston to a letter asking whether the appointment of a national fast, on account of the cholera, was contemplated by the Government:—

Whitehall, October 19th, 1853.

SIR,—I am directed by Viscount Palmerston to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th inst., requesting, on behalf of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, to be informed whether it is proposed to appoint a day of national fast on account of the visitation of the cholera; and to state that there can be no doubt that manifestations of humble resignation to the Divine will, and sincere acknowledgments of human unworthiness, are never more appropriate than when it has pleased Providence to afflict mankind with some severe visitation; but it does not appear to Lord Palmerston that a national fast would be suitable to the circumstances of the present moment.

The Maker of the universe has established certain laws of nature for the planet in which we live; and the weal or woe of mankind depends upon the observance or the neglect of those laws. One of those laws connects health with the absence of those gaseous exhalations which proceed from overcrowded human beings, or from decomposing substances, whether animal or vegetable; and those same laws render sickness the almost inevitable consequence of exposure to those noxious influences. But it has, at the same time, pleased Providence to place it within the power of man to make such arrangements as will prevent or disperse such exhalations so as to render them harmless; and it is the duty of man to attend to those laws of nature, and to exert the faculties which Providence has thus given to man for his own welfare.

The recent visitation of cholera, which has, for the moment, been mercifully checked, is an awful warning given to the people of this realm, that they have too much neglected their duty in this respect, and that those persons with whom it rested to purify towns and cities, and to prevent or remove the causes of disease, have not been sufficiently active in regard to such matters. Lord Palmerston would therefore suggest that the best course which the people of this country can pursue to deserve that the further progress of the cholera should be stayed, will be to employ the interval that will elapse between the present time and the beginning of next spring in planning and executing measures by which those portions of their towns and cities which are inhabited by the poorest classes, and which, from the nature of things, must most need purification and improvement, may be freed from those causes and sources of contagion which, if allowed to remain, will infallibly breed pestilence, and be fruitful in death, in spite of all the prayers and fastings of an united but inactive nation. When man has done his utmost for his own safety, then is the time to invoke the blessing of Heaven to give effect to his exertions.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
HENRY FITZROY.

The reading of this reply, it appears, excited a good deal of sensation in the Presbytery. The following conversation is reported:—

Rev. Dr. Clark said: It is not usual, I dare say, to make any remark on communications of this kind; but I feel called upon to say, that I totally dissent from the doctrines contained in that letter, and that I can be no party to share in the responsibility of those who refuse, or at least who decline, to give an opportunity to her Majesty's subjects to meet together for prayer on the occasion of so fearful a visitation. I do not wish to make any remark on men in high places, but it is the first time, and I hope it will be the last, that any Secretary of State has ever made any communication of this kind to any Presbytery.

Rev. Dr. Muir: I am sure we all concur in the statement made by our excellent friend. There can only be one sentiment of unmingled pity and regret entertained by us that such a document should ever emanate from a professedly Christian Government.

Rev. Dr. Macfarlane: Concurring as I do in the views expressed in regard to this communication from the Home Office, there is required no further expression of opinion from me on that subject. I would only venture to propose that we should take no further steps in this matter, but that we should report this communication to the Synod, which meets next week; so that whatever is done may be done, not as a Presbytery, but by our brethren within the bounds of the province.

Rev. Dr. Muir: That reference of the matter to the Synod is only, of course, as regards the time. There is no dubiety on our minds as to the necessity for appointing a day of humiliation.

Dr. Brice expressed his surprise and regret that any letter should be sent from such an authority to the Presbytery of Edinburgh; and contended that the Moderator's letter called for no such response.

Rev. Dr. Steven said that he regarded the document as unworthy of any Christian Government or governor.

On the question being put, whether the document should be engrossed, Dr. Clark moved that it should

not, but that it should be kept in *retentis*: which was agreed to.

The Moderator was instructed simply to acknowledge that the letter had been received and laid before the Presbytery.

The above report should be read in connexion with the following paragraph, extracted from the *Scottish Press*:—"We learn that on Friday night last one of our fellow-citizens was committed to prison for non-payment of the Annuity-tax. He was liberated, we believe, a few hours after his incarceration, probably in consequence of the tax having been paid by a friend. The public may be prepared to regard this occurrence as only the beginning of another series of such cases. Since the matter has again been brought before the public, we trust that the course adopted by the Presbytery of Edinburgh in regard to the last proposal for the settlement of the tax will not be forgotten. It is well to bear in mind that every reasonable proposal—every concession made by the Town Council—has been rejected and denounced by the parties at whose instance prosecutions and imprisonments take place."

Miscellaneous News.

Elizabeth Sayon, an old lady, widow of a Frenchman, has been murdered at Guernsey. The house was plundered; Mrs. Sayon was found dead on the floor; there was a wound on the head, and the corpse was partially charred, as if the assassin had attempted to dispose of the body by burning it. Suspicion has fallen on several persons.

Next Friday, a public meeting, under the presidency of Sir Roderick Murchison, will be held at Willis's Rooms, to promote a testimonial to the memory of Lieutenant Bellot. Sir James Graham has declined to preside, for official reasons, but he will move the first resolution. Lord Aberdeen heartily concurs in the project.

A New Free Bridge for City traffic is in prospect. Southwark-bridge, if free, would take off more than one-third of the traffic, and would be one of the greatest possible reliefs to the metropolis. The bridge cost between £700,000 and £800,000, and the proprietors now offer to sell it for £300,000. The Court of Common Council has resolved to ascertain by professional inquiry the strength and durability of the bridge, with a view to its purchase.—*Globe*.

The annual *souiree* of the People's College, Sheffield, was held on Wednesday evening, in the Cutlers' Hall. The number of students and friends of the college present was about 300.

In a trial for burglary, the judge took occasion to condemn the practice of placing policemen to listen at cells to overhear the conversation of prisoners in order to collect evidence against them. Officers thus employed naturally have a bias to believing the accused guilty, and may give an unconscious twist to what they hear, so that it may support the foregone conclusion.

Mr. Charles Lane Fox, of the Grenadier Guards, has been bound in his own recognizances for £1,000, to keep the peace for twelve months, as he declined to give his word of honour to the Marlborough-street magistrate not to fight a duel with Sir Robert Clifton.

It has been twice decided, lately, by the police magistrates, that a cabman is not entitled to charge for one child as an extra fare.

Postscript.

Wednesday, November 2nd.

PASSAGE OF THE DANUBE BY THE TURKS.

Telegraphic despatches from Vienna announce that Omer Pacha crossed the Danube in force on Friday last from Widdin. Previous advices have made us acquainted with the extensive preparations conducted at this point under the eye of the Turkish commander during the last three weeks. The eyot midway between Widdin and Kalafat was occupied by a Turkish force of 4,000 men on the 16th ult., and since this date batteries have been erected, and a bridge thrown across from the eyot to Kalafat in Little Wallachia. On the same day (the 16th ult.) also the Turks paid a preliminary visit of inspection to Kalafat, and, on the 28th, as we are now informed, the passage was effected, with a force, variously stated, at from 3,000 to 50,000 men, the smaller quotation being accompanied by the remark that a great number more were in the act of passing. It is also stated that the Russians withdrew their troops from Kalafat; leaving it to be occupied by the enemy. Opinion differs widely as to the probable results of this decisive movement. The *Times* says:—

It would be idle to waste strategical criticism on the movements of Omer Pacha, which are, probably, as involuntary as those of a rider whose misfortune has mounted him on the back of a runaway horse. Borne away by the fanaticism of Islam, he is probably forced to lead in order to preserve the semblance of command. With an inferior force, with uncertain communications in his rear, in the face of an enemy for a long time possessed of, and established in, the country, and far outnumbering him in cavalry, it appears the extremity of rashness to have deserted the protection of a line of strong fortresses and a mighty river, to throw himself into the midst of a hostile country at an inauspicious season of the year, when everything is against aggressive and in favour of defensive operations.

But whatever the result of the contest, the *Times* adheres to the view that the rights of Turkey must be maintained, and Russia be prevented from reaping the fruits of her duplicity and violence.

The *Daily News*, on the other hand, thinks more favourably of the issue of Omer Pacha's movements:—

At present everything appears to favour a speedy *dénouement* in this sense. Disease, it is known, prevails extensively among

the Russian troops on the Danube, and, notwithstanding the road-making propensities that have been attributed to the Russian Government, the pushing forward of reinforcements cannot be a speedy, an easy, or an inexpensive operation. It is yet too early to judge of the strategy of Omer Pacha—it has not yet been sufficiently developed—but what is seen is of good augury.

General Baraguay d'Hilliers is, by a decree in yesterday's *Moniteur*, appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Sublime Porte, in the place of M. de la Cour, called to other duties. M. de la Cour is to retain the title of Ambassador, but is to have, it is said, a *congé* of six months. The *Siècle* pretends to know that a similar course has been resolved upon by the English Cabinet as regards Lord Stratford de Redcliffe. The rumour is that Sir Edmund Lyons is to be the English Ambassador Extraordinary.

The *Times* Paris correspondent states that the last note of Prince Nesselrode was of a very pacific character. A new note, based on the evacuation of the Principalities, in which the portions of the Vienna note, which had offended Turkish dignity, should be omitted, or explained in such a way as to leave no ground for Russian interference with the sovereign rights and prerogatives of the Sultan, has been drawn up, has received the assent and approbation of Austria and Prussia, as well as of the representative of the Emperor Nicholas at Vienna, and is now on its way to Constantinople, whither the intelligence of its advent has been forwarded by telegraph. It appears, also, that Lord Stratford has procured the assent of the Porte to a note embodied in terms almost identical with those of the document now on its way to Constantinople.

Intelligence from Constantinople for the 22nd says.—The Austrian Internuncio has submitted to the Sultan the draught of a note, with the collective guarantee of the Four Powers. It is stated that this note has been accepted by Russia. A Tartar courier was at once sent to Omer Pacha with instructions for the postponement of hostilities.

According to a Trieste journal the greater part of the Turkish fleet is gone to Batoum, and it is affirmed that a communication with Schamyl has been established. The news of the serious losses suffered by the Russians is confirmed, and if the prevalent rumours are worthy of credit, all the Mussulman tribes on the eastern coast of the Black Sea are up in arms. In the late engagement between Schamyl and Prince Woronzoff, the former was forced to retreat. The Circassians lost, it is said, 2,000 men. The Russians confess to a loss of 5,000 on their side.

Private letters from the island of Bornholm, in the Baltic, state that several Russian ships of war—indeed a whole fleet—have been seen cruising and manœuvring to the east of the island.

The West India mail arrived at Southampton yesterday. Sir Henry Barkly had reached Kingstown, and assumed the reins of government on the 7th, with great *éclat*. It was stated that his Excellency had subsequently suffered, but not seriously, from an attack of fever.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

The metropolitan return of the Registrar-General states that the number of deaths from all causes registered in the week that ended on Saturday was 1,144. This is an excess of 78 on the corrected average, arising chiefly from the epidemic which has now attacked many parts of the metropolis, widely distant, between Hammer-smith and Whitechapel.

The deaths from cholera, which were about 16 weekly in the beginning of September, rose last week to 96. 64 males and 42 females sunk under the disease; 32 died under 15 years of age, 49 between 15 and 60 years, and 15 at 60 years and upwards. The 96 deaths occurred in the five metropolitan divisions as follows: In the west districts, 16; in the north, 3; in the central, 1; in the east, 24; on the south side of the Thames, 52. In the sub-district of St. Paul, Hammersmith, Kensington, the epidemic has raged with especial violence.

Dr. Gavin, on his way to Dundee, has turned aside to investigate several cases of death by cholera in Edinburgh. One of them was that of an infant, whose parents (also attacked) lived on a flat in the Lawnmarket. Two other cases were those of the wife and mother-in-law of a gentleman living in Causewayside—the sanitary condition of whose house, Dr. Gavin found to be even worse than that of the poor family in the Lawnmarket.

Last week the births of 817 boys, and 800 girls, in all 1,617 children, were registered in London. The average number in eight corresponding weeks of the years 1845-52 was 1,400.

The Queen and Prince Albert, the King of the Belgians, and the Duke and Duchess of Brabant went, yesterday to the Crystal Palace, at Sydenham, and spent three hours in examining the works.

The Dublin Exhibition was closed by the Lord-Lieutenant, on Monday. The ceremonial was splendid, and the building crowded. His Excellency, in a brief address, thanked God for the success that had attended the Exhibition, and, after naming Mr. Dargan, called for three cheers for that gentleman, which were given with great enthusiasm. The honour of knighthood was conferred upon Mr. C. Roney, after which his Excellency declared the Exhibition to be finally closed.

The news of the conflict at Wigan on Monday evening is confirmed. The miners attacked the house of Mr. Peace, agent for Lord Balcarras at Haigh. Eight or nine persons were shot by the domestic garrison, and one it is feared is fatally injured.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, WEDNESDAY, NOV. 2.

We have but little doing on our market to-day; prices as on Monday for every article.

ARRIVALS THIS WEEK:—

	ENGLISH.	IRISH.	FOREIGN.
Wheat....	qrs. 810	qrs. —	qrs. 9770
Barley....	990	200	1160
Oats.....	—	150	6370
Flour....	750	—	4260 sacks. 2160 barrels.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The advertisement duty having been repealed, we shall in future charge according to the space occupied; viz., 6d. per line up to six lines, and 8d. per line beyond six lines. That is to say,—

	s.	d.
1 line Advertisement.....	0	6
2 ditto	1	0
3 ditto	1	6
4 ditto	2	0
5 ditto	2	6
6 ditto	3	0

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We intend to publish an extra number on Saturday next, containing a full and complete report of the proceedings of the Anti-state-church Conference on Thursday and Friday, and of the Soirée on Friday evening. As the substance of the report, though considerably abbreviated, will be given in our succeeding ordinary number, the extra paper will be sent only to such subscribers as order the same of the Publisher, or through their news-agent. To prevent disappointment, it is requested that orders to the Publisher for the extra number (enclosing six postage stamps) may be sent early.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1853.

SUMMARY.

It is one of the gravest evils arising from the appeal to arms, as the arbiter of national disputes, that, beyond a certain stage, the course of events can no longer be controlled by either of the belligerents. They become the slaves rather than the masters of their position. Thus we find that a conflict is imminent on the banks of the Danube, although both sides are now sincerely inclined to peace. As between the Governments of Russia and Turkey, the question is virtually decided. A new note is now on its way to Constantinople, which has received the assent of Austria and Prussia, as well as of the representative of the Emperor Nicholas at Vienna. The Sultan has given his assent beforehand to the document; for we learn, at the same time, that Lord Stratford has already procured his signature to a project of arrangement almost identical with that now forwarded.

But Omar Pasha is a long way off on the banks of the Danube, with his legions of armed men impatient for action. The Porte has ordered a suspension of hostilities till the 1st inst., in the event of no collision having taken place prior to the receipt of the order by the Turkish commander. But hostilities have commenced, and blood has been shed before the fortress of Isaktchi, in consequence of the attempt of a Russian flotilla to ascend the Danube beyond the point permitted by the treaty of Adrianople. Further, there seems no reason to doubt that, on the 27th ult., a Turkish force of uncertain numbers had already crossed that river, and occupied Kalafat, and that a large number of troops were still passing over in barges when this news was despatched. The Russians were gathering on the point attacked, and it was expected that a collision would take place on the 28th. Thus, have all the efforts of diplomacy and the wishes of both the principals in the dispute been frustrated by the course of events. War has commenced;

though there is reason to hope it may not be of long duration. But the uncertainties of the appeal to arms are beyond mortal control or calculation. Hostilities have probably commenced in Asia as well as in Europe. Diplomacy must retire into the background, and witness, without power of intervention, the shock of arms between two barbarian States, which may, in spite of their utmost efforts, and the repugnance of European States, involve a general war.

Our own domestic war rises daily into more formidable proportions. Sixty or seventy thousand operatives are in open rebellion against the employers—are sustained by the contributions of a yet larger host—and a town of thirty thousand inhabitants is in military occupation. The waste of property thus caused is of course immense—the suffering inflicted wide-spread and poignant—the temptations of hunger and idleness to bitterness and violence, so sharp that we wonder they have been thus far resisted. Though the “strikes” have now lasted from five to eight weeks, only at the town above named has any serious outbreak occurred. And the circumstances of Wigan are somewhat peculiar. It has a mixed population of colliers and weavers; and the former are not a people given to the patient endurance of privation, even though self-imposed. By this semi-barbarous, subterranean tribe, an attack was made, on Friday, upon an hotel, in which a meeting of colliery masters had just been held, and an adverse decision given. But for the disgracefully inefficient state of the local police, and the yet more disgraceful backwardness of the towns-people to protect each other, the mischief would have been confined to window-breaking;—even the sight of a railway train supposed to contain soldiers, sufficing to disperse the ruffian rabble. As it is, two or three houses were sacked, and several provision-dealers despoiled, ere the soldiers did arrive. And on Monday night, an attack was made on the house of Earl Balcarras' agent, by one detachment of the rioters, while another kept the military in the town. The assailants were met, however, by the vigorous resistance of a few policemen and employés; shots were fired, and it is believed eight or nine of the rioters were wounded.

Much as the shedding of blood is ever to be deplored, we see not in an affair like this, the most serious aspect of a Lancashire war. That we discern in the mutual bitterness and resolution of capitalists and operatives—the stern, and it may be imperatively necessary, compact of the masters against further concession; the inevitable extension of the rebellion by the very means taken to compel surrender—every “lock-out” swelling the numbers of the “turn-outs”; and the implicit submission, at once admirable and deplorable, of the operatives to their leaders. The evil is not confined to present loss and suffering; every victory gained by coercion supplies the material of new campaigns; and the very staff of English industry may one day be broken in the conflict of parties. Very earnestly, therefore, do we repeat Mr. Hume's warning, that heavy responsibility will attach to the rejection of propositions for an amicable reference to arbitrators.

Palmerston and the Presbytery of Edinburgh! The association of names reads like the head-line of a farce, in which youthful, impertinent wit quizzes grey-bearded unwisdom. But in the case thus announced, the wit is sober and the grey-beards angry. The Presbytery wrote to the Home Secretary asking him to advise the royal appointment of a day of fasting and prayer on account of the cholera. Lord Palmerston replies—by the pen of “Henry Fitzroy,” as if to keep out the waggery that will trickle with the ink from the Secretary's own quill—in a serious lecture on the distinction of secular from religious duties. Prayer and fasting are very good—he says—in their place, as acknowledgments of the Divine supremacy; but very much out of place when substituted for the performance of obvious duties—especially for the reparation of grievous neglect. The causes of epidemic disease, he describes with charming precision—or rather, what is known of their causes, he expresses with admirable terseness: “those gaseous exhalations which proceed from overcrowded human beings, or from decomposing substances, whether animal or vegetable.” With equal

felicity of expression and correctness of sentiment, he suggests that—

“The best course which the people of this country can pursue to deserve that the further progress of the cholera should be stayed, will be to employ the interval that will elapse between the present time and the beginning of next spring in planning and executing measures by which those portions of their towns and cities which are inhabited by the poorest classes, and which, from the nature of things, must most need purification and improvement, may be freed from those causes and sources of contagion which, if allowed to remain, will infallibly breed pestilence, and be fruitful in death, in spite of all the prayers and fastings of an united but inactive nation. When man has done his utmost for his own safety, then is the time to invoke the blessing of Heaven to give effect to his exertions.”

The Presbytery pronounced by word and vote their “unmingled pity and regret”—a derangement of substantives which we can only attribute to their irritability under rebuke. It certainly provokes our “pity,” though no “regret,” to find that this same synod of eager devotees is still a conclave of petty persecutors—imprisoning a fellow-citizen for annuity-tax, while clamouring for the sovereign's mandate for public prayers. Have the reverend gentlemen never come across the prophetic saying which declares, that the fast alone acceptable to the Most High is that of abstinence from injustice, and activity in good?

The proceedings of the Congregational Union and Evangelical Alliance will be perused with no little interest. In the one assembly, discussions have taken place upon topics, which, whatever their intrinsic merits, indicate a greater breadth of toleration in matters of ecclesiastical arrangements, and a disposition to grapple with conspicuous evils in spite of the promptings of a timid Conservatism. The other organization seems to be finding a position in proportion to its opportunities for action. By turning its attention to the subject of religious freedom on the continent, the Evangelical Alliance is occupying an interesting field of public usefulness, in which every friend of free religion will wish abundant success.

With equal interest, by many, if not all our readers, will be perused the report of Mr. Cobden's speech at Barnsley; and the record of other indications that the Mechanics' Institute is not an extinct agency of education, though, unfortunately, a very ineffective one.

The closing of the Irish Exhibition—with, very appropriately, three cheers for Mr. Dargan—and the death of the aged Lord Cloncurry, are the only additional items of the week's intelligence requiring notice here. The venerable nobleman, who began life as Mr. Lawless, the associate of Emmett and Fitzgerald, Curran and Grattan; the subject of two years' imprisonment in the Tower, on the bare fiat of the Government of the day—this most worthy of Irish patricians passed away with the light of a new era for his long unhappy country gilding the open tomb, but not eclipsing his own illustrious past.

LONDON ABOVE-GROUND.

In discoursing, last week, of making London what it might and should be—a city famous for healthfulness no less than for vastitude and wealth—we dwelt upon the necessity for a comprehensive and effectual scheme of drainage. There must be a speedy and final termination—we contended—to the no-system which permits flood-water to stagnate in the lower parts of the metropolis, open sewers to course through its populous places, poison-breathing cesspools to yawn beneath a large majority of our dwellings, and a tidal river which bisects a city of two millions of inhabitants to be the reservoir of whatever refuse is not left to exhale away into mephitic vapour where it lies.—To-day, we ask attention to the dwellings of these two and a quarters million of people—to the London that exists to the eye; a vaster collection of habitable buildings than is elsewhere beheld by the sun in his daily circuit.

Of the 325,000 houses returned in the last census as contained in, or constituting, London, what proportion, does the reader suppose, are constructed, or fitted up, in accordance with the plainest sanitary principles? Of course, we have no statistical data on which to base an opinion—but we have abundant indirect evidence that the proportion must be very small. Medical men will tell you that they often find disease obstinately localized in fashionably-situate and high-rented houses: a terrace, or row of villas, has, perhaps, been built on the site of an extinct

horsepond, or other plot of sodden ground, which the builder never thought of covering with an impervious surface. Many west-end and suburban streets are backed by stables: a physician writes to the *Times* complaining that he has searched in vain through many such streets for rooms sufficiently healthful and well-provided for the residence of his coachman and family. Any one who has acquaintances residing on the north side of Oxford-street, may learn that a rent of £100 or £150 per annum will not secure exemption from "bad smells." In very many of the houses of tradesmen and middle-class people, it is well known, servants and employes are driven to sleep in kitchens or overcrowded, narrow chambers. And—to appeal but once more to observation, in the absence of statistical fact—how often do we not find in the houses of well-to-do people, that not a single window opens from atop; thus defeating the commonest and pleasantest method of ventilation.

Passing from these upper regions of London and London society—the region of respectability and high rents—descending to the parts in which dwell artisans, warehousemen, small shopkeepers, labourers, sailors, with the tribes of nondescripts who rather lodge than dwell in any place—what are the features observed or detected? Suppose we enter the metropolis by one of its more imposing approaches—by Blackheath, Kensington, or Hampstead. At either of these points, we come in contact with the pioneers of metropolitan progress; the earthworks thrown up in advance of the great host of brick and timber. Here, on the edge of gravel-pits and ponds, perhaps under the lee of huge dust-heaps—but also in sight of proudly waving groves and gaily gleaming mansions—are groups of huts of clay, uncemented brick, or thin wood; seldom boasting an upper story, or more than two lower rooms; tenanted by donkey-drivers, bird's-food gatherers, ginger-beer itinerants, washerwomen, and carpet-beaters. In front of these hovels will often be found an attempt at a garden—more frequently, a pile of cinders, decaying greens, oyster shells, herring bones, and a sloppy puddle. Within shall be found, on a floor of earth, or unjoined planks, between walls sodden with damp, perhaps running moisture, the interior of an Irish or Highland cabin, without its native grace—human beings of either sex and all ages, feeding, working, sleeping, in common; kitchen, parlour, and chamber in one. It happens that the latest publication of the General Board of Health describes just such a case in one of these localities—a small house, tenanted by thirty-two persons; in one small room of that house—a room twelve feet square—the "landlady of the room," a married couple, and three young persons! In these outlying parts, the water supply is primitive—a pump or well serves the whole colony for all purposes; and almost invariably the water thus obtained is tainted from contact with a cesspool or the drainage of a manure heap. The water is foul, and the houses are damp and overcrowded, but the air is free and pure,—it will be said. Not free, if pure; for the windows of these villas of the poor do not open, and there is rarely a door back and front. All the conditions of health are reversed;—walls impervious to nothing but pure air; warmth impossible without the risk of suffocation.

Let us advance into London streets—into one of the older suburbs, such as Limehouse, Stepney, Bethnal-green; Bermondsey or Walworth; St. Pancras, Clerkenwell, Shoreditch;—districts that have been cut off by the growth of houses between them and the open country in which they stood not long ago;—or into some parish that has known better days—such as Soho. Here we have no more colonies of squatters, but responsible householders—people paying rent, rates, and taxes, entitling them to vote in parish vestries, and at septennial hustings. The outer aspect varies only from the old-fashioned decayed mansion—with its imposing doorway, broad stairs, spacious low-roofed rooms—to the slender, cubical, six-roomed house. But to both these types of houses for the poor, adhere attributes common to the hovels we have previously visited. Here, too, you have the deficient water supply, the cesspool in place of the sewer, permanent obstacles to ventilation, and systematically overcrowded space. Here you shall find the landlord in his underground parlour, letting his back kitchen, and subletting every floor—uncleanly habits induced by want of provision for

cleanliness—ashes and other refuse accumulating in back yards—water running twice or thrice a week into foul receptacles—the atmosphere alternating from that of a washhouse to that of a bakehouse, either damp or sultry, and always heavy. And we are now—be it remembered—not in "blind alleys" or yard-wide courts, but in the streets through which vehicles can pass abreast—the streets through which the decent artisan would naturally look to find a cheap and comfortable shelter—the streets in which little birdcages are seen at the windows, and children abound upon the door steps.

We will go a little further—as far as we dare go. We will turn into the lane on whose pavements two cannot walk; into the "buildings" that are reached by a step, and lead we know not whither; into the "yard" whose boundary we can see from where we stand—a dwarf-wall, parting off a city cemetery or a knacker's premises. There is not here a uniformity of squalor. Sometimes we have been surprised by emerging through a narrow archway into a well-paved square of clean and even gay-looking houses. But we can almost count the number of these. In Bishopsgate and the Minories, in Holborn or the Westminster Broadway, we shall find other types of the general condition of London behind the street fronts. Go with us up Saffron Hill, opposite Farringdon Street; it is not the worst place of the sort; it is even the subject of civic improvements. Here are some men in an austere garb, and with ascetic faces, but well known as assistants to the Catholic priest of the district—Brothers of St. Vincent of Paul. Their ecclesiastical superior or coadjutor, the Rev. Mr. Kyne, has just made public a report of this locality, drawn up by them. It numbers up and classifies *two hundred and fifteen* human beings (one hundred and twelve of the number adults) living in three "rather small houses." They decline to give the number of the houses, or the name of the court in which they are situate; but it is easy to identify them nearly enough to justify the description, "rather small." Allowing eight rooms to each, nine persons will be the average to a room! and this on the shores of the open Fleet Ditch, rolling its black and stinking freight between festering heaps, which men can only be got to disturb by bribes of copious gin.

London requires to be half rebuilt. At least one million of its inhabitants need to have dwellings erected for their accommodation. Who is to undertake this enormous work—vaster than that of converting Rome from a city of brick into one of marble? The corporation—that is, of course, a municipality such as that we have often sketched; one co-equal with and worthy of London—some will reply. We have little objection on the score of abstract principle to such a proposition. We accepted, with thanks, Lord Shaftesbury's act for enabling municipal and parochial authorities to levy a rate, with the consent of two-thirds of the ratepayers, for the erection of improved dwellings; holding that if the State is justified, on the score of safety, in breaking up crowded and feculent lodging-houses, it may provide better substitutes. But our experience of that act confirms our dislike to public provision for social necessities. In very few instances, and not where most needed, has the new power been set at work. The attics have been surcharged by the clearance of cellars; and poor wretches driven out of lodging-house styces to bivouac on the open ground and under dry arches (whence the refusal of the Brothers of St. Vincent to particularize). We fall back, therefore, with renewed confidence on benevolent enterprise, working in the traces of economic law;—and assail with renewed impetuosity legislative impediments to its free action.

SUPPRESSION OF THE LIQUOR TRADE.

OUR Temperance friends, in proposing "the total and immediate legislative suppression of the traffic in intoxicating liquors," are changing the whole basis of their movement, and turning their back upon the instrumentality to which they have hitherto owed their success. Up to this time they have laboured, with many evidences of progress, to abate the national taste for strong drinks. Making due allowances for other causes, it must be admitted that the advocates of teetotalism have, by their ubiquitous agency, teaching, and example, done much to purify our social habits, and diminish drunkenness and crime.

Amongst all classes, above the lowest in the social grade, the drinking customs of our ancestors are falling into disuse. Inebriety, no longer a sign of good fellowship, is reckoned a positive disgrace. The bottle, though not discarded, is no longer a household god. The fact of a man being a total abstainer enhances the value of his services in almost every calling in life. This is a great and gratifying moral revolution—inducing us to forget the intolerance and exaggerations that have been mixed up with the teetotal movement, and withhold censure where we cannot bestow approval. So long as temperance reformers use only the means of persuasion, we wish them success in their endeavours to gain an end which we equally desire. We rejoice with them in their triumphs. We have no more inclination to condemn one man whose self-distrust leads him to take the pledge, than another whose habitual self-control can dispense with the fetter.

But now that it is proposed to substitute coercion for persuasion in the promotion of teetotalism, this change of plan demands the fullest discussion by the public press. What are the special grounds which require us to return to that vicious national policy which for years past we have been gradually abandoning, to do violence to Free-trade maxims, and to ignore individual right? We are told that "intemperance is our national bane, and the liquor traffic its most prolific source." But in reply to this it may be urged that intemperance is only the outward result of depraved tastes and evil habits. It is in the inner man that the change requires to be wrought. That will remain untouched by legislative enactment. To quote the language of a temperance advocate,—“If we are so restrained that we cannot choose whether we will act upon a right or a wrong motive, or so constrained that we are not in the *habit* of so choosing, how can our moral nature be undergoing the process of training or education?”

We thus find temperance reformers returning to the old formula for abating crime and immorality. Despairing of their efforts to change the man, they would starve him into abstinence. They have made common cause with the whole tribe of compulsionists, and have even less reason on their side. He who calls upon the State to provide religious or secular instruction, proposes something intended to change the heart and the life; but the temperance advocates only propose, by this Maine Liquor Law, to exercise the power of restraint. What they desire is to uproot crime and elevate man? Now, if the action of the State, through religious institutions, has during centuries of trial failed to effect this, we are at a loss to see how the same agency can secure it, by merely removing one specific temptation out of the path.

As we are desirous of compressing into one article our view on a subject which might well occupy a series of papers, we have thrown some of the objections to the imposition of a Maine Law upon England into the following form:—

It is a violation of individual right; and though supported by telling facts, is justified only on the plea that may be urged in defence of all arbitrary acts.

Universal experience proves that neither nations nor individuals can be made moral or religious by Act of Parliament. We have been abandoning this principle of legislation, and now propose to return to it.

The principle, if true, should be extended further. We should remove all temptation to crime and self-indulgence out of the way. If the interposition of a negative restraint is so desirable, the imposition of positive obstacles to crime and vice are still more so—such as State provision for religion, education, amusement, &c.

Outward restraint does not regenerate the inward man. The depraved taste will find other means of self-indulgence; the tendency to sensualism will remain, and will find means of gratification, unless higher restraints are in action. In France and other countries excess in strong drinks is scarcely known—yet the evidences of human depravity, crime, license, and self-indulgence are not less abundant. But if the allegations of teetotalers are correct, France ought to be a pattern of morality, religion, and social virtue.

If self-reliance and self-discipline are the foundations of individual character and the con-

servative element in society, the principle of State interference for removing temptation out of the way only weakens that independence.

The demand for a prohibitive enactment is diametrically opposed to all that has hitherto been done by temperance reformers, with so much success, to extirpate drunkenness, by producing inward conviction of its evils, and showing the people a more excellent way. They persuade the intemperate to self-denial. State prohibitions would only cut off one means of indulgence, leaving the propensity unchanged.

The evidence as to the working of the Maine Law in America is not conclusive. Crime may have at first diminished, but who can say how long that result will continue? It requires more than a year or two to evolve the consequences of vicious legislation. If a law were made to provide every man in the kingdom with a comfortable home, sufficient food, a good moral and religious education, we should probably be able to rejoice for a time in the diminution of crime; but would the end justify the means, or the ultimate results be advantageous?

There is no royal road to temperance—or national reformation. Violent revolutions in social and moral as well as in political matters, are not in accordance with God's laws, and inevitably produce reaction. The principle, "work out your own salvation," is universally true. Individual greatness (the foundation of national greatness) is the result of fiery trial, continual struggle, unceasing self-sacrifice, unremitting discipline. Can such good arise from the mere stroke of the legislative pen?

We are sorry, therefore, for the ill-advised movement inaugurated last week at Manchester, and believe it calculated rather to retard than to advance the cause of temperance reform. Its supporters are making more haste than good speed to realize the desired end, and to the extent to which they rely upon the State to realize their object, are paralyzing the arm of voluntary agency. By enlightening the public mind—by exemplifying, in teaching and example, the blessings of self-restraint—by making the homes of the working classes decent, comfortable, and attractive—by creating rivals to the public-house, in the shape of literary institutions—by increasing the range of popular amusements—and by carrying the healing truths of the gospel into the ranks of the poor—every friend of humanity may help forward the object to which teetotallers specially direct their exertions. But if attention is now to be withdrawn from the great source of disease, and concentrated upon one of its symptoms—in order to reach which the course of legislation is to be turned back, and a daring innovation attempted—we can see only evil in the change of plan, regret the expenditure of misdirected zeal, and lament, still more, that incurable tendency to impose upon Government a work which universal experience proves its inability to accomplish.

STUDIES FOR PHILOSOPHERS AND PHILANTHROPISTS.

THE BIRMINGHAM REFORMATORY INSTITUTION.

THE ragged-school and the refuge are to our social maladies, such as are house-to-house visitation, and other precautionary measures, in a time of epidemic disease; an endeavour to suppress the budding evils of juvenile destitution and vice, ere they have time to develop into the abandonment and obduracy of the criminal. But there are, happily, among us, hearts brave enough to despair of none—to venture on the work of reformation and recovery, even when the victim is marked with the brand of the convicted thief. We have more than once or twice informed our readers of an experiment of this kind, in progress in or near Birmingham, under the auspices of C. B. Adderley, Esq., M.P., Joseph Sturge, Esq., and other benevolent individuals. The experiment—if such it must still be called—was commenced on a very small scale; and having proceeded well, the machinery was enlarged. Mr. Adderley generously appropriated five acres of land at Saltley, near Birmingham, to the purposes of the institution, and erected a dwelling-house, and agricultural buildings. In this house there are now resident fifteen lads, all of whom, we believe, have been at least once in their brief lives inmates of a prison. Six other lads of the same character remain at the house in Ryland's-road, Birmingham, which is retained as a sort of preparatory seminary. Of the whole twenty-one, the eldest is but nineteen, and there are some as young as ten. Of the six at the house in Ryland's-road—where

there is no opportunity for out-door work—three work at shoemaking, two at tailoring, and one at some occupation in the town. In the establishment at Saltley, the objects of the promoters are, of course, much more fairly carried out. We regret that we have no personal knowledge of the place or the institution; but our readers will not be less interested in the following account—which we find in the *Birmingham Gazette*—than if it were now for the first time made public:—

"The building at Saltley, which presents the appearance of a substantial farm-house, is durably constructed of red brick, in the plainer Tudor style, and comprises a dining-room about 40 feet by 12, with a dormitory above of the same dimensions; and has, also, a master's parlour, bed-room for the matron, and the customary out-offices. The furniture is of the simplest description—a couple of stained deal tables and a few forms in the lower room, and ingeniously-sprung hammocks—a separate one for each boy—in the dormitory. Every inmate has, likewise, his particular clothes'-chest, marked with his name. Ornaments are entirely absent, except two or three Scripture prints in the dining-room; the intention of the committee evidently being, to accustom their proteges to the accommodation they will probably have to meet with in their progress through life. The food supplied to them is simple but abundant, and is seasoned with that best of sauces, labour; for there is a strict observance of the rule, "If a man will not work, neither shall he eat." The daily routine is very briefly described. Master and pupils rise at six o'clock, and the latter work in the field, under the superintendence of an intelligent and well-trained labourer, until eight, when they breakfast. A chapter in the Bible is then read and prayer offered, after which work is resumed until half-past twelve, when dinner is served, and is again succeeded by work until about five. The remainder of the evening is devoted either to amusement or instruction; the latter, which at present is unsystematic, is shortly to be placed under the direction of the industrial master from the adjacent Training School. On Sundays, the boys attend Divine service at Saltley Church, and in the afternoon of that day some of the College students afford them instruction proper to the season. Once a week the inmates are allowed to visit their friends; and so far are they from manifesting any desire to escape, that it is no unfrequent occurrence for them to return with half-a-dozen companions, for whose admission they strongly intercede. A thorough system of self-government has been adopted in order to impart to the pupils independent and thinking habits. Twice a week they assemble, under Mr. Ellis's control, to hear complaints, and redress wrongs, and if even the weakest boy feels aggrieved, he meets with a tribunal ready to administer justice. Supposing, for example, that a boy has thrown a stone, or used improper language, his fellows inquire into the offence and determine the penalty, and this passes into a law to be applied to all ordinary cases of a similar description. When their decisions are sanctioned by the master, they acquire the force of bye-laws, and a few words of reproof and admonition from Mr. Ellis, or, in extreme cases, a hint at expulsion, is sufficient to bend the most stubborn will, for there is nothing they dread so much as the withdrawal of the privileges they enjoy. The introduction of this family principle has produced the most beneficial results. At first the elder boys attempted to tyrannize over the younger, and those who had known each other before used the old nicknames; swearing was very prevalent, and fighting frequent; but finding that they were associated as a family, the boys began to feel affection for each other, and to regard their master as a father. Acted upon by his example, and that of his son, a remarkably intelligent youth, about thirteen years old, they became peaceful and moral, and when one of their number had grossly overstepped the rules, and been expelled, the others have begged his re-admission with as much earnestness as they would display for one who was really their brother. Fights are now unknown, and swearing very rarely occurs.

"The process of reformation has been materially aided by the manner in which emulation is induced rather than inculcated. When the colony entered on its new house, about June last, each boy had allotted to him twenty square yards of land as a garden, and Mr. Ellis offered a prize of 1s. for the best and earliest bunch of radishes. The prize was eagerly competed for, the youthful gardeners working in their leisure evening hours, and some of them rising an hour earlier in the morning. Proud, indeed, was the winner, but still more elated was the gainer of a yet higher prize. In order to foster habits of voluntary industry, a prize of 5s. was offered to the boy who could show the best kept garden on the 1st of the present month, 2s. 6d. to the second, and 1s. to the third best. The result of this has been that all the gardens have been well kept, and it became a matter of no small difficulty to decide to whom the prizes belonged. They were, therefore, adjudged by a neighbouring farm bailiff—his decision was, in its turn, submitted to the boys at their weekly meeting, and they unanimously acquiesced in it. A piece of ground is now being broken up into gardens of about 250 square yards, one of which will be allotted to each boy, who will be supplied with seeds, and will then be allowed to sell the produce of his ground, which he must cultivate in his leisure time. Some of these allotments are already tenanted, and their occupiers were, during our visit, as busily employed as emigrants settled in the bush. The little farm, for so it may be called, is in the best order, and, thanks to the excellent spade husbandry bestowed upon it, has produced a fair crop of vegetables. The land has been twice dug, trenched, and pipe-drained, and the history of the drainage proves how much reliance may be placed upon the efforts even of boys. They commenced the task on the 18th of November last, and when it was known that they intended thoroughly to drain the land, even experienced persons laughed at the idea, for the soil is a stiff clay, and the drains were to be laid four feet deep. However, the master, Mr. Ellis, took the spade in hand, and followed by his troop of obedient boys, commenced the work, which was really of the hardest kind. A large drain was dug across the field, and then twelve other drains were laid to flow into it, and those who laughed were proved for once to be in the wrong, for these boys, who had never touched spade before, effectually drained the field by laying, in the course of about two months, nearly 1,600 yards of tile-drains, four feet deep in the clay. The facts we have mentioned will show some-

thing of the progress made by the institution in the accomplishment of its most praiseworthy object, and we are sure that any of our readers who choose to investigate the subject for themselves will not only be astonished and delighted with the results already achieved, but will become anxious to aid in their extension by contributing their money, and lending their influence, to increase the capabilities of the school; for, unfortunately, there are hundreds of boys in Birmingham who equally need information, and who might as effectually be reclaimed as those who present such noble examples of the power of kindness at the admirable institution at Saltley."

MATTERS OF LITERATURE AND ART.

Mr. Henry Cole, the prime originator of the Great Exhibition, has come before the public with a plan for carrying out the proposals of the Royal Commissioners of the Exhibition of 1851, with respect to the establishment of an institutions for the promotion of art and science, at Kensington, rather by the public themselves than by Government. Mr. Cole argues that, in this country, private enterprise is more efficient than Government agency, and he therefore wants the public to back up his plan:—

The following course of action might probably be arranged, and would seem calculated, on the one hand, to secure the advantages of responsible and unfettered action, and enlist the strongest motives to produce the highest excellence; whilst, on the other, it would enable the Government to adopt the result as a national work without incurring the risks of a failure. A charter should be granted to a public company, conferring the privileges of carrying out the erection of the buildings, and the decoration of them; the laying out the grounds with terraces, fountains, and sculpture, and the formation of certain collections, including all that ought to be comprehended in a National Gallery of Painting, Sculpture, and other decorative arts. As respects the few paintings already national property, the Government might lend them, and agree to pay a fair rental for the space occupied by them. The company should be the sole judges of the scale of its expenditure, and the execution of the works. When the structures and collections were sufficiently complete to be opened to the public, the Government, in return for its assistance, should have the right to determine whether the public should be admitted gratuitously or by payment. If it were determined gratuitously, then the whole works would be purchased for the nation at a fair valuation, upon principles previously settled. If the Government declined the purchase, then the public should be admitted on payment, so successfully tried at the Exhibition of 1851, and the company would undertake the future management, Government still reserving the right of purchase at the expiration of certain periods of time. The company might also contract to provide buildings for private institutions. Space in the buildings might also be provided to exhibit the existing Government collections of sculpture, &c., under certain conditions; but these at present form a small part of what systematic collections of art and science would become by the energies of private enterprise, which would create galleries as extensive as those of the Louvre, as systematic as those of Berlin, and as rich in illustrations of the decorative arts as the historical collections in the Zwinger and the Green Vaults at Dresden.

The Rev. John Marshall, of Burnside House, Farfshire, has drawn attention to the fact, that while pensions have been granted from time to time to the widows and families of various literary men, "the widow and family of one of the most eminent of the Scottish poets have been passed over in the distribution of royal patronage." "Surely," says Mr. Marshall, "the widow and family of James Hogg—of the sweet bard of Ettrick—of the author of the 'Queen's Wake,' of the 'Witch of Fife,' of 'Flora Macdonald's Lament,' and of a host of lyrics which rank him as a song-writer next only to the immortal and unfortunate Burns, is as worthy to receive attention at the hands of our gracious sovereign as either Sir Francis Head or the widow and daughter of Joseph Train. Twenty years have now passed away since the Ettrick Shepherd—he, the glory of the far-famed *Noctes Ambrosianae*—passed from earth. Poor Hogg sleeps in Yarrow churchyard; but Mrs. Hogg yet survives, and, along with her, three "bonnie lasses," the offspring of him who, sprung from peasant soil, touched a cord of nature's harp which made it thrill even to distant lands. All these are unprovided for. Why is it so?"

The subscriptions towards the erection of a statue to Prince Albert in Hyde Park,—a project originating with the Lord Mayor of London,—are, the public is assured by that gentleman through the *Daily News*, already of such an amount as to render success certain. Mr. Challis is naturally desirous of giving a national character to the movement. The Duke of Devonshire, the Duke of Bedford, the Duke of Norfolk, the Marquis of Westminster, the Earl of Ellesmere, Lord Overstone, Mr. S. Morley, Lord John Russell, and a host of artistic, scientific, and mercantile men, have subscribed for sums varying from £5 to £100.

A statue to the late M. Arago is to be erected in Paris. The committee thus far is cosmopolitan in character. M. Dupont (de l'Eure), the philosopher's old friend, has been chosen as Hon. President. M. Combes, President of the Academy of Sciences, is the Acting President.

It is stated by a Northern newspaper that a manuscript work "On the Natural History of Balmoral and its Neighbourhood," from the pen of the late Dr. Macgillivray, Professor of Natural History in Marischal College, Aberdeen, has been purchased from the executors by Prince Albert. The work, it is said, is to be printed for the use of her Majesty and the Royal family, and for private circulation.

"A thing three-volumed and once read," will not much longer be true of novels. Mr. Bentley has announced that henceforth he shall sell for 10s. 6d., in one volume, what has hitherto cost £1 11s. 6d.

Messrs. Routledge and Co. have, it is said, offered Sir E. Bulwer Lytton £2,000 per annum for ten years for the exclusive publication of his works.

M.P.'S AND THEIR CONSTITUENTS.

According to an increasing custom, many members of the House of Commons have recently met their constituents to give an account of their stewardship. On Tuesday last, Sir James Anderson, M.P. for Stirling Burghs, attended a meeting of his constituents at Inverkeithing. Besides a brief review of the session, the speech of Sir James consisted almost exclusively of references to Scottish questions. At its close, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him.

Mr. Craufurd, M.P. for the Ayr district of Burghs, made a speech of some significance a few days ago, at a meeting of his constituents at Irvine. The chairman stated that in attendance on his Parliamentary duties Mr. Craufurd stood next to Mr. Duncan, M.P. for Dundee. Mr. Craufurd remarks on the Maynooth endowment and ecclesiastical affairs generally were as follows:—

I gave you promises on the Maynooth question—I believe I have fulfilled those promises. I stated broadly the grounds on which I should pursue my course as to Maynooth College and the *Regium Donum*. I voted against the Maynooth endowment; and I voted against the *Regium Donum* [cheers]. I know there are many of you who may differ from the views I entertain on this subject, but the more I have observed and thought on it the more are the views I ventured to advocate here before you last year confirmed; and I believe that until those views are adopted you will not obtain the repeal of the grant to Maynooth. For I think that of those who voted on that question, there are three classes—those who object to the grant on the ground that it is an endowment of what they consider error, and are prepared to vote against it without considering the consequences that would result from its abandonment; those who would vote against it on the grounds on which I voted against it, who see the consequences of that vote, and who are ready to go to those consequences; and those who are anxious to vote against that endowment because they consider it an endowment of error, but who, seeing the consequences of such a vote, dare not do so. The consequence to which I allude is the change that must necessarily follow in the endowment of the Irish Church [applause]. So long as you admit the principle of an endowment, where are you to draw the line between yourselves and those who differ from you in matters of religion? I take the question simply in a political point of view, and not as one of truth or error. Here we have a country consisting of members of all denominations of Christians [hear, hear]. How are we to pick out one denomination and endow it, while we leave the others unendowed? They are all, politically speaking, equally entitled to the protection and care of the State; and though I admit that the State ought not to encourage that which is erroneous, yet who is to set himself up in judgment as to what is and what is not erroneous? Are we to set up frail human opinions as absolute tests of that which is correct or incorrect, true or untrue? [hear, hear.] The difficulty must be solved by considering the question in a broader light; and I would enunciate the principle in this way: That the existence of an Establishment is inconsistent with the principle of toleration of other sects [hearty cheers]. The principle on which an Establishment is founded is this—that the State adopts and supports, as the only truth, a certain doctrine of religion; and the necessary and natural consequence of such a principle is, that anything which departs from that view must be erroneous. Therefore it is that I contend that the maintenance of the Establishment principle is inconsistent with the toleration of other religious opinions [cheers]. How is it that the Church of Rome has maintained the way which it possesses, despite all the opposition it has received, except by carrying out those views consistently wherever she has been able, and not tolerating any other but the Roman Catholic creed? Gentlemen, I know many of you may be inclined to say, "This is Voluntaryism!—this is Radicalism!" Call it, gentlemen, by any name you choose. I venture to say you must come to the consideration of these questions in this light: You must abandon calling one another names; you must set yourselves heart and soul to consider, aye or no, are these the true principles of legislation? And if you do, depend upon it you will not arrive at any other conclusion.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Craufurd was carried with acclamation. In reply to some questions respecting the proposed new Reform Bill, he suggested that if the country at large was in earnest in wishing for an extension of the franchise, it was high time they were making their voice heard, for it was quite common in the House of Commons for members to say, "the country is indifferent about the franchise—there is no want of it; why should we trouble ourselves about reform?" He dissented from that. He believed the country was quiet, because it was in confident expectation of a large measure of reform. Still, they ought to give expression to their opinion. He wished the franchise extended as far as possible, and should do his utmost in that direction.

Mr. W. Digby Seymour attended a great meeting of his constituents at Sunderland on Monday week. Some 2,000 persons were present on the occasion. From the full report of the speech of the hon. member in the *Sunderland News*, we gather that it was a very animated and successful performance. He reviewed the proceedings of the last session with great spirit, and excited satisfaction by his own votes on the various questions which arose. He stated that he voted for the Canada Clergy Reserves Bill in every stage, quoted the opinion of many that there should be no reserves, but that each man should pay for the support of his own creed, and of that church which in his conscience he approved [applause], which, he said, was his own view, dwelt strongly upon the necessity of ocean penny postage, adverted to his speeches on the repeal of the taxes on knowledge, to his speeches on the India question, and to the budget. In noticing the church-rate debates (having supported Sir W. Clay's motion) he said:—"Church-rates which are bad in idea [cheers], bad in action [cheers], bad in every way [deafening cheers]. Why does not the Church herself, so rich in revenue that she has enough and to spare, why does she not bring forth from her abundance sufficient for the purpose?" [Renewed cheering.] He

was cheered when he mentioned that he voted against Mr. Spooner's motion on Maynooth, but explained that he had previously voted against ecclesiastical grants of all kinds to Presbyterian, Episcopalian, and Catholic, as well as the vote to repair Maynooth. In conclusion, he said that he should have attended the Peace Conference in Edinburgh, if he had not been preoccupied, praised that movement generally, but—

The question of Turkey, so far as our relation to it is concerned, arises out of the past; while the efforts of the Peace Society are calculated to affect the future. Their duty is to impress the public mind with the horrors of war, to expatiate on the blessings of peace, and to see that war be not entered upon too soon; but surely if our pacific efforts fail—if all our exertions are rendered abortive—we ought not then to cast off Turkey, and allow her to be trodden down and plundered [cheers]. Surely, then, we ought to lay our hands on our swords [enthusiastic bursts of applause]—to lay our hands on our swords, and put our trust in the God of Battles. [The hon. member sat down in deep emotion, greeted by loud and protracted cheering from all parts of the house.]

A vote of thanks to Mr. Seymour was carried by acclamation, to which he responded by quoting the following lines of Milton:—

The grateful heart by owing owes not,
But by owing still doth pay.

Sir Charles Wood made a speech on Thursday to his Halifax constituents, who were giving him a complimentary dinner. His topics were free-trade, the great measures of last session, and the Eastern question. His treatment of those subjects did not differ from that of his colleagues.

Mr. Bouverie met his constituents at Kilmarnock, on Friday last, to give an account of public affairs during the past session. In the course of his speech he professed the greatest confidence in Ministers; and showed that Scotch business was not, as is often represented, neglected in the House of Commons.

SUPPRESSION OF THE TRAFFIC IN INTOXICATING LIQUORS.

The United Kingdom Alliance is the name of a new organization, established for the purpose of endeavouring to procure the suppression, by legislative enactment, of all traffic in spirituous liquors or intoxicating drinks. Manchester was selected by the friends of the movement as the birth-place of the new organization. Accordingly, at Manchester there was, last week, a numerous gathering of its friends and supporters from all parts of the country. On Tuesday night a sermon on the subject was preached by the Rev. Jabez Burns, of London, at Lever-street Chapel. On Wednesday morning the council breakfasted together in the Athenæum, and held a conference in the lecture room of that institution at half-past ten. The chair was taken by Samuel Bowly, Esq., of Gloucester. The hon. secretary, Mr. Pope, read the report of what the executive committee of the Alliance had done. It stated that a council of 200 or 300 gentlemen had been formed.

Dr. Harvey, of Dublin, in proposing the reception and printing of the Report, referred to a recommendation of the celebrated Bishop Berkeley, that the Government of the day should adopt a similar plan, so that, after all, the idea was not very new. The doctor then referred to what had been done in Sweden in this way, which he considered satisfactory in the extreme.

Dr. McCrie, of Glasgow, seconded the resolution, which was put and carried.

Alderman Harrison, of Wakefield, stated he had recently been in Scotland, and he learnt that in thirty-five parishes in that country where there were no payments for the poor, they had no tavern. He moved the following list of gentlemen as officers of the Alliance and executive committee:—President, Sir W. C. Trevelyan; Vice-Presidents, Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., M.P.; R. D. Alexander, Esq.; F. Schwan, Esq.; Joseph Eaton, Esq.; Rev. Wm. Kerrow, D.D.; Rev. Berkeley Addison, M.A.; Rev. Patrick Brewster; Rev. Theobald Matthew; J. S. Buckingham, Esq.; J. Simpson, Esq.; J. P. J. Haughton, Esq.; J. Hope, Esq.; Rev. Dr. Urwick; S. Bowly, Esq.; Rev. Dr. Burns; Rev. Dr. Bates, Glasgow; W. H. Darby, Esq., Wales. Executive Committee:—W. Harvey, Esq.; W. Card, Esq.; Samuel Pope, Esq.; Rev. J. Bardsley, M.A.; Rev. J. Haching; John Riley, Esq.; W. Rowe, Esq.; Henry Dixon, Esq.; John Banning, Esq.; Dr. Hudson; J. Inglis, Esq.; Rev. Owen Jones; J. E. Nelson, Esq.

This resolution having been carried, the chair was taken by the President, Sir Walter Trevelyan, amidst great cheering, who briefly stated the pleasure he had in being connected with the movement. Mr. Lawrence Heyworth, M.P. for Derby, then read a paper on the "Delusion of the Drinking System." In concluding, he expressed his hope that the time would soon come when the delusion in favour of strong drink, now weakening, would gradually vanish away.

Dr. Perry, of Derby, then read a paper on the "Liquor Traffic, immoral and indefensible." The liquor-traffic had been proved bad, the traffic was immoral; in wine, in spirits, in beer, alike, alcohol was sold, and that was poison. If, instead of alcohol, arsenic was sold, no one would hesitate to admit the immorality of the traffic, and if they did that in one case, why not, then, in the other? The traffic, also, was carried on under false pretences. The article sold was adulterated; and it led to breaking the Sabbath. The law to put a stop to that was evaded (added the Doctor); from his own knowledge, in Derby, 398,067 persons were engaged, it was calculated, in breaking the Sabbath by Sunday tipping. If Edinburgh was a fair type, thirteen millions of visits were made to these dens of infamy every Sunday. Then, again, there was much meanness in the traffic; people were got into the public-house under false pretences—to sup-

port burial-clubs, or benefit societies, and in other ways. Then, again, the traffic was immoral as regards its consequences. It created drunkenness, it produced disease. In our hospitals the greatest number of diseases was produced by intemperance, and the intemperate was more likely to fall a victim to disease than another man. Cholera owes to it more than one-fourth of its victims. Then it augmented the want and recklessness of the country. All statistics bore out that fact. The lazy men were poor men, and the public-house made them so. It had been shown that three-fourths of pauperism was created by public-houses. Dr. Chalmers was of the same opinion. During the last year there had been a decrease of pauperism; but if, instead of seven per cent. decrease, if the public-houses had been closed there would have been a decrease of 75 per cent. It was said, if the traffic was restrained and modified it might be still permitted. It was impossible thus to do away with the evils of the traffic. You might as well try to stop the course of Niagara. It was quite compatible with the functions of Government in this matter. No man had a right to spread disease, and insanity, and intemperance, and crime. At the conclusion of the address, which was loudly cheered,

Mr. Henry Mudge, surgeon, of Bodmin, read a paper on the necessity of a law to prohibit the liquor traffic, deduced from the social state of the public-house system in Cornwall.

The conference of Advocates of Temperance, having sent in a resolution in favour of the suppression of the liquor traffic, which was read,

Dr. Lees, of Leeds, who has just returned from America, then made a few remarks on the working of the Maine Liquor Law. He had first visited New York when there were 1,400 delegates assembled, and there was but one opinion amongst them—including lawyers, ministers, and statesmen—that the law had exceeded their sanguine expectations. Even the theorists who carried out the Voluntary Principle to the fullest extent confessed that if the State did interfere, it should adopt the Maine Law. At the Massachusetts Convention, at which he was present, consisting of the very élite of the United States, such as Theodore Parker, Horace Mann, Dr. Beecher, &c., came to a similar effect. To show how zealous they were in Boston, the people, when he was there, advocated the formation of a league to battle with the papers in the pay of the rum-sellers, and to stir up the corrupted feeling of the municipalities of Boston and New York. They proposed to raise one million dollars for the advocacy of this cause. From Boston Dr. Lees stated he went to Canada, where he found a growing feeling in favour of the law. He then went to Ohio and Pennsylvania; and though he travelled 3,000 miles, he saw no wine or spirits anywhere. John O'Neil, and a Catholic clergyman, were the only men who denied the Maine Law had done good. He (Dr. Lees) went to Portland himself, and he could not find a place where a glass of spirits could be had. The present mayor, who was not the candidate of the Dow party, who was a moderate man, told him that the law had accomplished all that human law on any subject could accomplish. "It has destroyed," he said, "three-fourths of crime. It has destroyed public drinking. I only repeat that in the neighbouring state of Boston and New Hampshire, they can purchase and bring in drink for private persons."

Mr. J. Silk Buckingham then read a paper on the justice, policy, and safety of a Maine law for England; and, in doing so, took a survey of the evils resulting to society from intemperance. As Christians and philanthropists, they had no right to remain quiescent under such a system. Mr. Buckingham read three short paragraphs from the report drawn up by himself, when Chairman of a Parliamentary inquiry on intoxication, in 1834, which went further than the Maine Law itself, and which showed that the Maine Law was no new idea to him.

—Wilson, Esq., of Shirwood Hall, moved the following resolutions, which were seconded by Mr. Willis, of Luton, and agreed to, after some discussion:—

1. That it is neither right nor politic for the State to afford legal protection and sanction to any traffic or system that tends to increase crime, to waste the national resources, to corrupt the social habits, and to destroy the health and lives of the people.
2. That the traffic in intoxicating liquors as common beverages is inimical to the true interests of individuals, and obstructive of the order and welfare of society; and ought, therefore, to be prohibited.
3. That the history and results of past legislation in regard to the liquor traffic, abundantly prove that it is impossible satisfactorily to limit or regulate a system so essentially mischievous in its tendencies.
4. That no considerations of private gain or public revenue can justify the upholding of a system so utterly wrong in principle, suicidal in policy, and disastrous in result, as the traffic in intoxicating liquors.
5. That the legislative prohibition of the liquor traffic is perfectly compatible with rational liberty, and with all the claims of justice and legitimate commerce.
6. That the legislative suppression of the liquor traffic would be highly conducive to the development of a progressive civilization.
7. That, rising above class, sectarian, or party considerations, all good citizens should combine to procure an enactment prohibiting the sale of intoxicating beverages, as affording efficient aid in removing the appalling evil of intemperance.

Joseph Gutteridge, Esq., moved, and J. Gardner seconded, the adoption of a resolution relative to the engaging of lecturers, which, with another in favour of the forming associations to agitate for the carrying out the objects of the association, and another recommending offering a prize of £100 to be given for the best essay on the same subject, were unanimously adopted.

Mr. Bowly, of Gloucester, then stated he was prepared for an uphill game; but he was surprised to find how large were the numbers who were prepared to go with them to put a stop to the liquor traffic altogether, rather than to deny themselves the indulgence of strong drinks. He moved the recommendation of an issue of tracts on the part of the committee, which, having been carried, Richard Allen, Esq., of Dublin,

moved a resolution to the effect that the agitation for legislative interference should be kept apart from the temperance organizations as such, but that the members of the latter be requested to co-operate with them, which was seconded by the Rev. Dr. McKerron, of Manchester, and carried, as were also resolutions to the effect that ministers of religion, magistrates, teachers, and newspaper editors be invited to join in the movement, and that there be raised a fund of £2,000 to defray the expenses of the first year's agitation.

Dr. Leech, of Glasgow, then read a paper on the policy of confining and treating drunkards as lunatics, after which Rev. Dawson Burns read a paper on the nature and aims of the Alliance, which, with resolutions of thanks of the usual character, filled up the time which had been allotted, and the Conference dispersed, regretting that the nature of the business to be done, exceeded the time given them to do it. We may add here, that many visitors and ladies were present, and that funds to the amount of £800 or £900 were announced; amongst the donors were Sir W. Trevelyan, £50; Alderman Harvey, Esq., Manchester, £50; J. Eaton, Esq., £50; W. Janson, Esq., £50; J. Hope, Esq., £50; R. D. Alexander, Esq., £50; L. Heyworth, Esq., M.P., £10; J. Simpson, Esq., £50, &c., &c.

On Wednesday evening a public meeting was held in the Corn Exchange, which was filled to overflowing. Sir W. C. Trevelyan occupied the chair. Mr. Pope, the honorary secretary, read the resolutions which had been passed at the conference of the council. Letters, he said, had been already received from 150 gentlemen, expressing their ardent sympathy with the movement, and regret at not being able to be there. He also read over the list of subscriptions towards the £2,000 fund, which already reached to £847 12s. 6d. Dr. F. R. Lees, of Leeds, moved the following resolution:—

That the prime end of social legislation is to secure the utmost protection to the citizen against all destructive acts and demoralizing agencies in the commonwealth.

Rev. R. Panting, M.A., vicar of Chebsey, supported the resolution, and it was unanimously adopted. Rev. B. Parsons, of Ebley, moved:—

That the traffic in intoxicating liquors as beverages is always and inevitably productive of immense injury to the social, moral, and material interests of the nation.

William Willis, Esq., of Luton, seconded, and the Rev. Henry Gale, B.C.L., of West Lambrook, supported the resolution, which was then unanimously carried. Rev. Fergus Ferguson, of Glasgow, moved:—

That this meeting regards the liquor-vending establishments of the country as a source of temptation and a nursery of crime, incompatible with the advance of society in the path of true civilization, and earnestly calls on all patriotic citizens and enlightened statesmen to aid in the work of the total and immediate suppression of the traffic in intoxicating liquors.

This was seconded by the Rev. Jabez Burns, D.D., of London. Samuel Bowly, Esq., of Gloucester, moved:—

That this meeting cordially approves of the object and constitution of the United Kingdom Alliance for procuring the legislative prohibition of the traffic in intoxicating beverages, and accords to that movement its hearty sanction and support.

Rev. D. McCrae seconded the motion, and it was unanimously adopted. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

THE NORTHERN STRIKE—RIOT AT WIGAN.

Within two or three days of Mr. Cobden's compliment to the men on strike for their peaceful behaviour, a very mischievous outbreak has taken place. Before relating which, however, we will notice a circumstance of good omen.

Of all our public men, perhaps Mr. Hume is best entitled to attention when he speaks on the subject of strikes. For more than a third of a century he has taken a prominent part in every attempt to improve, by legislation or otherwise, the condition of the working-people. A letter from him to the Preston operatives would therefore deserve to be treated with respect, and probably point the way to a reconciliation with the employers. Such a letter has been received by the President of the Preston Union. Mr. Hume, after giving his decided opinion that "all strikes, whether of workmen or of masters, are injurious to both and detrimental to the public interests," and after glancing at the repeal of the combination laws in 1824, thus refers to the Preston dispute:—

You declare that the workmen have always been for arbitration, and that the masters have refused that fair course. I am not in a condition to know whether you are correct or not; but whichever party have refused to refer their differences to arbitration, have much to answer for, both to the public and to the parties who have become the sufferers thereby. I consider the benefits of Free-trade to be great, and to be increasing. The freeing of labour, in 1824, from the shackles that then interfered with and bound the working-classes was the commencement of that great movement; and I do yet hope that the good sense of both masters and men will enable them to see the advantage of doing what was the object in view by the repeal of the combination laws—of referring all disputes to arbitration.

In a postscript, the writer adds: "I see on the list of advocates for arbitration to settle the disputes of nations, instead of having recourse to war, many master manufacturers who are at this moment in strife against their men; and I do hope that a little consideration will induce those masters, and all masters, to meet with the readiest means every application from the men for the settlement of these ruinous strikes, in which innocent women and children and small traders become the victims."

At a meeting of the weavers on Wednesday, the chairman announced that "a gentleman of London" had sent a check for £500 for the operatives. It was also stated that "the Archbishop of Dublin" had written a letter expressing "his approval of the con-

duct of the unemployed operatives of the town." At a spinner's meeting, it was announced that seven shillings would be paid each worker for the week—probably eight shillings next (this) week.

On Saturday afternoon about 6,000 of the unemployed assembled in the Orchard, to hear addresses from their delegates. Mr. E. Swinglehurst (chairman) adverted to the closing of the mills in Burnley and Bacup, where, he said, he had advised the hands to apply by hundreds for parochial relief. Mr. Walton (Blackburn) suggested that unless the mills were speedily re-opened, the operatives of Preston should remove to other towns, where they could get paid for their labour. In Blackburn alone one-half of them might find employment by-and-bye. Mr. George Cowell reminded the assembly of the approaching municipal elections, and urged them to do all they could to prevent the re-election of those "cotton lords" at present in the council. They must support men who would vote for the appointment of a stipendiary magistrate, and thus rid the bench as well as the council chamber, of cotton. Mr. Brown (Blackburn) intimated that when they had obtained an advance of wages they must make application to the legislature for a reduction of the hours of labour. Mr. Rhodes (of Stockport) vindicated the justice of their demands for increased remuneration by reference to the advanced prices of manufactured goods. Mr. Luke Wood (Stockport) briefly addressed the meeting on the lock-out at Padiham, stating that the masters there would re-open on Monday if the hands would pledge themselves not to contribute to the support of Preston.

The outbreak we have referred to took place at Wigan, on Friday night. The population of Wigan is 32,000, and of these about 6,000 factory operatives, and nearly 5,000 colliers, have been on strike six or seven weeks. The master colliers have had periodical meetings at the Royal Hotel. The time as well as place of meeting being known, it is not surprising that the colliers should have assembled from time to time to watch the place of meeting, endeavouring to gain encouragement or information from a word or gesture as the more frank and friendly disposed of their employers passed in or out. One of these meetings took place on Friday afternoon. By the time the meeting terminated, several hundred colliers had congregated in front of the hotel, and manifested great anxiety to know the result of the deliberations. The decision soon oozed out. It was that the pits should be thrown open, and that the men might resume work at the prices they received when they struck; but even this was with the condition that the masters could close the pits again at the end of a fortnight if the men did not return to work in large numbers. An impression had prevailed amongst the operatives, that if the masters did not yield the whole 16½ per cent. demanded, they would at least at this meeting agree to offer half that advance; and when the actual result became known, an excited feeling began to be manifested by the colliers, and they continued about the hotel and market-place. Some of the more obnoxious masters are said to have been followed into a shop and pelted. According to another account, as soon as the decision became known, a volley of stones, potatoes, &c., was flung at the windows of the hotel—which stands on the eastern side of the market-place, and on the crown of a hill. The Police Office stands something more than 100 yards from the Royal Hotel. The force stationed there, when complete, includes a chief constable, one sergeant, and nine policemen; but on this occasion one man was ill, and one or two others were absent from various causes. An auxiliary force of 50 special constables had been sworn in to meet any emergency that might arise from the strikes, and this force, consisting of artisans, might now have been of great value had they been courageous or reliable. The mayor hastily summoned a number of these specials, gave one of the leading ruffians into custody, and sent him with four policemen towards the Police Office. The prisoner was rescued by the mob, and the brave specials, when the mayor turned to look for them, were nowhere to be seen! The mob from this time had everything their own way, and the mayor and magistrates having held a hasty consultation, went to the Electric Telegraph Office at the North Union Railway station, and forwarded a message to Preston, 16½ miles distant, for the aid of the military. Subsequently, at half-past 8 o'clock, they sent a special messenger by railway train. The barracks, however, are at Fulwood, 3½ miles further, and as the soldiers had retired to bed when the message arrived, and as a consultation had to be held whether it was safe for the military to leave Preston, where an outbreak was not unlooked for, much time was lost before the troops could be put in motion. After wandering for several hours about the town, breaking windows and extinguishing the lamps, the mob returned to the hotel.

This time they entered the house, tore down the curtains of windows and beds, smashed the pier and other glasses, the glass in the picture-frames, took away some liquors from the bar, and finally attempted to set fire to the house. The attempt, however, was happily frustrated. A cry arose to "blow up" the house; but there was fortunately neither gunpowder nor the blasting apparatus colliers know so well how to use. The mob next made another excursion down Wallgate, and on reaching the opening opposite the Victoria Hotel, proceeded up it to the house of Mr. James Taylor, a partner in the firm of T. Taylor and Brother, cotton-spinners—a lofty three-story building, which they attacked both back and front, entirely demolishing the windows. An attack was made on Mr. Esplin's shop, well-stocked with jewellery and watches, and the shutters and windows were broken, but just then a heavy railway train crossed the bridge over the street close by, and a false alarm that the soldiers were at hand from Preston being raised, a precipitate retreat was made. The mistake having

been discovered, the overseers' offices, the offices of the Board of Health, and other public buildings were attacked, and had their windows destroyed. A cry of "Johnson's" was here raised, and the mob rushed down Green street, towards the house and mill of Mr. Johnson, cotton-spinner. Mr. Johnson and his family had barely time to effect a retreat through the garden, when the mob attacked the house, breaking open windows and doors, and entering the drawing-room and parlours to destroy the furniture. A valuable finger organ, a pianoforte, some fine engravings, paintings, and their frames, were demolished in a short time, and damage was committed to the amount of about £500. Here they took the fire from one of the grates, and placing it in the middle of the drawing-room floor placed on it some tablecloths, furniture, and other combustible materials, and so left the house to become a bonfire. On their retreat, however, Mr. Johnson and his family re-entered the house, and were ultimately able to counteract their design. Passing through the garden, part of the mob destroyed some rustic gardens chairs, and threw a log of wood through the glass of the conservatory. The next rendezvous was the house of Mr. William Tipping, cotton spinner, living in the same outskirts of the town. Here they broke the windows and the doors of the house, but did not enter. They contrived, however, to do a deal of damage. Retracing their steps to the heart of the town, a third attack was made, about ten to half-past ten o'clock, upon the Royal Hotel. They now surrounded and attacked it back and front, broke more windows and furniture, and destroyed whatever came in their way. After this, two provision shops, situate in distant parts of the borough from each other, were entered and sacked of their contents. The parties are supposed to have been singled out for spoliation, because they had refused to contribute to the turn-out fund since the strike. An attack was made upon the shop of Mr. Collinson, pawnbroker, Standishgate, and clothes of £5 or £6 in value were taken. Mr. Collinson offered the party a sovereign not to destroy his stock (after they had broken his windows), and, after calling for a light to see if the sovereign was a good one, they accepted his offer and decamped.

At length (at half-past eleven at night) the military arrived, consisting of 150 rank and file of the 34th Infantry, under the command of Captain J. Wilt. The mayor and some of the magistrates placed themselves at the head of the soldiery, and went through the town, but they only came up with an insignificant party of stragglers from the rioters. Of these they apprehended five youths, mostly Irish, who had evidently taken part in plundering the provision dealers, their pockets being stocked with tea, sugar, tobacco, biscuits, &c. The prisoners were lodged in the lock-ups, and the town gradually assumed a state of quietude, the soldiers took up their quarters at the Victoria Hotel and the Moothall.

The local and special correspondents of the London papers asserted all quiet up to Monday evening; but the same papers contained the following, received by electric telegraph:—

Wigan, Monday night, 8.30.

A mob at Lord Crawford's colliery has been fired upon, and a man was carried away on the shoulders of others. The soldiery were called out, but have returned without any further collision.

Preston, Monday night.

The mayor of Wigan has just sent for two additional companies of troops. It is reported here that rioters are fighting at Haigh colliery. Colliers are said to be pouring into Wigan.

The *Daily News* special correspondent then describes a scene in the streets of Preston, on Sunday:—

The nearest approach to life out of doors was visible at the corners of the streets and opposite the doors of gateways, on which were pasted large placards, addressed "To the Thirty-five Associated Firms of Legree Brothers!" This address to the millowners, couched in a tolerably vigorous style, with a tendency to declamation, appeared to be hugely relished by knots of the "turn-outs," who were in general content to receive its contents through a reader, who gave it aloud for the benefit of the rest. I was struck with the manner in which more than one of these men performed their task. One in particular read in a deep clear tone, with a solemnity of manner and a perfection of emphasis which I have rarely heard equalled. The impression he produced was very marked. One of the listeners, a tall, gaunt man, of about fifty, with features apparently pinched with want—remained during the whole time of reading, his eyes fixed on the reader, with a look terribly earnest. At the conclusion he seemed for the first time able to give utterance to the feelings which possessed him. His remark was prosaic enough, but it was uttered with such sincerity that it met with a ready response from the assemblage: "Roight, if ye ne'er sed anither word, mun." "Aye, lad," was the chorus, and the body walked off with their hands in their pockets, to listen at another corner to the same tirade. Not a very refreshing incident for the masters.

The same writer sketches the principal leader of this ominous industrial rebellion:—

George Cowell, who is the most popular of the leaders—indeed, the only one that I could find commanded much popularity at all—is a striking personage in his way. He is rather under the middle size, of a sallow complexion, has clear, open, mirthful eyes, great breadth of forehead, and an expression of resolute adventurous determination which makes him master at once of the sympathies of his audience. He speaks in the broad dialect of the county, uses all the idioms of the class with a clear consciousness of the force he gains by so doing, and stems all opposition by the good-humoured decision with which he puts aside all objections. He chooses his words well, and is, in short, one of the most effective popular orators I have heard.

Foreign and Colonial Intelligence.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

The *Moniteur* of Friday published the following telegraphic announcement from Bucharest, dated the

25th ult. "Two Russian steamers, with eight gun-boats, forced the passage of the Danube on the 23rd, and encountered a smart fire from the Turkish fort of Isakchi, situate on the right bank of the river, between Reni and Ismail. The Russians had a lieutenant-colonel, three officers, and twelve sailors killed, and about fifty wounded. They pretend to have set the fort of Isakchi on fire."

The *Moniteur* says the Government has received from the French Ambassador, at Constantinople, a telegraphic despatch, dated October 21:—"Prince Gortschakoff's answer had been considered as a refusal. Nevertheless, in consequence of a representation from the Ministers of the four Allied Courts, the Ottoman Government had ordered a suspension of hostilities till Nov. 1. In case, however, of hostilities having been commenced, the order was to be considered null and void. The combined fleets were to enter the Dardanelles the next day." The fleets only left Besika on the 22nd, and on the 23rd only three of the French vessels were at Gallipoli, at the entrance of the sea of Marmora. Admiral Dundas was at the first castle of the Dardanelles.

The draft of a new arrangement to supersede that framed at Vienna has been approved by the English and French Governments, and is now on its way to Constantinople.

Letters from Constantinople mention that the Russian agent, M. Argyropulo, has had an interview with the Austrian Internuncio, and has formally placed the Russians in Turkey under his protection.

M. Xavier Raymond, who transmits communications from Constantinople to the *Journal des Débats*, says that he has not met one person who has seen both armies who does not consider that the first battle fought must result favourably to the Turks. Elsewhere he refers to the alleged danger of the Christians in Turkey, and says, "Nothing can be more false, I assure you. Everybody here is of one opinion: and Franks, English, Turks, Italians, Germans, all agree that the Christians never were more secure or more respected."

A letter from Galatz, written by a gentleman who had descended the Danube from Pesth, gives a lively picture of what he saw. He found the Russians posted in force at Guirgevo, opposite the Turkish fortress at Rutschuck. This fort was well armed; and around it lay the army in green tents. The brink of the river was defended by a series of low batteries.

It appears that the Turks protect themselves on the Bulgarian bank, and keep watch with great vigilance. All along the bank there are posts and sentinels, or videttes; with near them a pole, from fifteen to eighteen feet high, surrounded with straw or rushes steeped in tar, and destined to be set on fire in case of alarm. The fires would be lighted in the event of a movement of the Russians, and the signal would spread rapidly on all the line. The videttes shelter themselves under a covering of branches, holding their horses by the bridle, and with their lances stuck up before them; they have also poles by which to give an alarm. All these videttes belong to the regular cavalry. Besides the posts and the videttes of the bank, there are others on the road, having also signals prepared. This system of vigilance is very well regulated; and things appear to be on a very good footing at Routschouk.

It has been stated that Klapka has received a command; but it appears that he cannot yet have reached Constantinople. Dembinsky has left Paris for Malta.

The Turkish army intended to co-operate with the Circassians will be commanded by Guyon, the Englishman who won a name in Hungary. Sefer Bey, a Circassian chief, long detained at Adrianople, has been sent back to his mountains. Much is expected from Schamyl in the Caucasus. He will be supplied with arms and ammunition.

Letters from Bucharest state that on the 18th Prince Gortschakoff ordered Baron Osten Sacken to march at once into the Principalities, and take the place of the corps of reserve in Moldavia. The Russian fleet at Odessa is continually occupied in conveying troops to the Asiatic coast of the Black Sea.

The latest accounts from Circassia state that the Russians had sustained a considerable loss, and that Prince Woronzoff had been under the necessity, in consequence, of demanding a reinforcement of 20,000 men.

St. Petersburg letters, received in Paris, speak of a strong desire for negotiation on the part of Count Nesselrode; and even the St. Petersburg journal has an article that is decidedly in this sense. The accounts of the deplorable state of the Russian army appear to be correct.

FRANCE.

The *Moniteur* of Thursday contained, in its non-official portion, an article on the Eastern question. The writer takes notice of the "new phase" of the question—the negotiations broken off, and the declaration of war; and says, "there is no reason to hope that a conflict can be prevented." The question has had an universal interest from the beginning; and while England and France have co-operated in maritime demonstrations, Austria and Prussia have lent their assistance. But the Conference at Vienna failed to maintain the rights of the Sultan—"the only certain basis of the independence of the Ottoman Porte, and, consequently, of the equilibrium of Europe;" and as the Porte decided for war, "the Government of the Emperor could not swerve from the course of action it had traced out for itself from the commencement." Its views met those of the British Government, and the fleets were ordered to pass the Dardanelles.

The article observes, that when the Emperor ascended the throne, he gave a solemn promise to assist in maintaining peace; but peace would want its essential condition if it ceased to be based on that equilibrium necessary to secure the rights of all. These

considerations have guided the Government on sending the fleet to its new destination; and the Emperor will not lose sight of them until peace be established, on the only secure foundations. "Such an enterprise was worthy to unite the flags of the two great countries of the West, and thus to create the beautiful spectacle of a perfect understanding in action as well as in negotiations." As to the two powers who have not joined in the maritime demonstrations, the writer thinks the interest they have shown in the question is evidence that their neutrality will not become indifference; and while France and England approach the theatre of action, "the co-operation of the other two Cabinets will not be wanting to the negotiations which will tend to facilitate the settlement of the quarrel." This article is stated to have been written by the Emperor himself.

In telegraphing this article to the Prefects of Departments, the Minister of the Interior says:—

The *Moniteur*, of the 27th inst., has no official column. It announces in the non-official columns that the combined fleets of France and England have passed the Dardanelles. Although no positive news has arrived to confirm the report of a first engagement, hostilities are imminent between the Turkish troops and the Russian army on the banks of the Danube. France and England have not lost all hopes of arriving at a solution of the Turco-Russian differences. They do not renounce the co-operation of the Cabinets of Vienna and Berlin, whose interests are identical with theirs, to continue the negotiations for peace. In any case, they regard the situation with security, and they wait the result with confidence.

M. de la Cour, the French Ambassador at Constantinople, has been recalled; and General Baraguay d'Hilliers appointed his successor. He is to start immediately.

There is a talk of a Government contract for steam-boats to carry troops to the Levant.

SPAIN.

It is stated that the people of Madrid are showing symptoms of indignation at the Court. On the 18th, the Queen went late to the opera, and the performance was stopped to play the Royal March. As usual on the entry of the Queen, the audience stood up; but a majority cried out, "Que continue la opera; basta, basta!" This demand was complied with, and the opera resumed. The King turned pale; but the Queen did not show any emotion; and on leaving the house she bowed to the audience. This is a most unusual occurrence: Spanish etiquette does not permit even applause when the Sovereign is present. The meaning of this incident is, that there is a Court "favourite," who is hated. A second symptom of public feeling is more decided: on some of the coins, "a word only applied to the most worthless," is stamped across the royal effigy!

Mr. Soule, the American Minister, whose arrival at Madrid has been incorrectly announced several times, reached that capital on the 15th ult.; and has presented his credentials at an audience of the Queen.

The question of the union between Spain and Portugal is again seriously discussed, and the difficulty that would otherwise be encountered in the unwillingness of Portugal to be absorbed, as it were, in the larger country, would be removed by calling to the crown of the "Iberian Peninsula" the Duke of Braganza, son of the Queen Donna Maria da Gloria, and who is now in his 17th year.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The accounts from Burmah are not at all cheerful. Bands of armed men, commonly called "Dacoits," but really irregular soldiery, were stockaded in many places. Their aggregate number is said to be 14,000; probably exaggerated. Although strongly garrisoned by British troops, a town called Kaingain, or Khang-yen, had been destroyed by a body of these fellows. The steamer "Indus," going up the river, came upon "a complete nest of Dacoits, a little below Kaingain." On seeing the steamer, they fled, and left their boats, which the captain had not time to destroy. On reaching Kaingain, Major Michin, commanding the garrison there, sent the "Indus" to cut off the Dacoits, while he attacked them by land. About fifty boats were cut out; others sunk. Major Michin attacked the Dacoits higher up the creek; the steamer went to assist him; but the enemy gave them the slip, and repossessed themselves of several boats. Again the boats were retaken. Major Michin asked for reinforcements; before they could arrive, Kaingain had been burnt to the ground. An attack on Prome was expected, and a renewal of the war considered inevitable.

It is stated that a Frenchman is drilling the Burmese troops at Ava. He managed to get up the country on the pretext of commercial objects.

Colonel Mackeson, a distinguished "Political" on the North-west frontier, has been assassinated in his office, by an Affghan. This is the third public servant who has been murdered within a few months in the Punjab.

A more serious incident has occurred at Aurungabad, in the Nizam's territory. The Resident sent out a force to arrest a Rajah and a party of refractory Arabs. When summoned, the Arabs refused to surrender. A regular siege of their place of refuge took place; the Rajah was taken alive, and his band exterminated: on our side, two officers, Captain Parker and Ensign Bosworth, and twenty Sepoys, were killed—two officers and fifty men wounded.

From Hong Kong intelligence comes down to the 9th of September. The whole of China appears to be in a complete state of anarchy, and trade was consequently very dull. The leader of the insurgents continued in Nankin, henceforth, probably, the capital of China, but large bodies of his troops have, for some time past, been overrunning the country to the north

of the Yellow River, on their way to Peking. From the beginning of August a report had been prevalent at Shanghai that Peking had fallen. The *Pekin Gazette* is filled, nevertheless, with accounts of victories gained over the insurgents, but these official statements are not believed. It was generally believed the Emperor had left Peking, and was some distance from it, ready to make his escape.

At Amoy there had been severe fighting on the 28th and 29th of August, a short distance outside. The Imperialists, having encamped in great force about four miles from the city, encountered the insurgents, who were defeated with great slaughter, and fled in confusion into the city; but the Imperialists did not take advantage of their success, but fell back on the villages for the sake of plunder, committing a horrible massacre of the inhabitants, and great devastation. Four villages were burnt to the ground.

The rebels are still inferior to the Imperialists at sea; the latter have the advantage of large and, comparatively speaking, well-appointed junks, against which the rebels have hitherto only been able to bring such trading junks as they could get hold of, and fit out as best they could.

The last advices from Canton state that the insurgents were daily gaining ground, taking cities north of the Yang-tse-kiang, and generally spreading themselves throughout the country, to the entire ruin of trade; that manufactures, almost without exception, had given way in price; in some instances the fall was very serious. Stocks were large and fast accumulating, and the prospect of amendment rather remote.

AUSTRALIA.

The General Screw Shipping Company's steamship "Argo" has made the passage home from Port Phillip in 64 days, *via* Cape Horn. She left that port on the 11th of August. Advices from Adelaide mention the arrival of the "Victoria," in the unprecedented space of 60 days from England.

Since the departure of the previous mails a new gold-field, on the Goulburn River, has been discovered. This caused the seamen to raise their demands from £45 to £60 for the run home—an amount which has been paid by the captain of the "Argo." Some new "diggings" at Jones's Flat were accidentally discovered by the wheel of a bullock-waggon having turned up large nuggets in the rut. Both these new "diggings" are yielding profitably. The markets are flat. Mr. Latrobe has resigned the Lieutenant-Governorship of Victoria, and only holds office until his successor shall arrive. One of Mr. Latrobe's last acts was to throw open certain portions of Crown lands previously reserved from lease or sale, comprising forty-five square miles. On this the *Melbourne Argus* observes:—"Should the Government pursue with vigour this new policy, prosecute the surveys with energy, and bring the land into market in adequate quantities, little in reference to the land question will remain to be wished."

In Sydney, besides the report of the Constitution, virtually recommending an aristocratic Senate and a Representative Assembly, based on a perfectly exclusive franchise, other interesting measures had been before the Legislature:—one, introduced by the Attorney-General, to embody recent improvements in the rules and practice of the English law courts, and another, by Dr. Douglas, to establish limited partnership on the French and American plan, had passed; another, also by Dr. Douglas, to execute punishment of death privately within the walls of the prison, and in the presence only of the officials and sworn witnesses, was making such progress that it would most likely be sent to England for the Royal assent.

In other matters there is little news of interest to send home. Gold-digging in this colony is almost at a stand-still just now, and there is little prospect of any improvement until spring. In the meanwhile, the yield of the gold-fields of Victoria is falling off very considerably.

An effort is being made to form a Church of England College in connexion with the University of Sydney. Many persons have held aloof from this movement, on account of the want of religious instruction in the University. A salary of £500 a year will be given to the Principal by the Government.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Several new Austrian regiments have been sent into Lombardy.

Mr. Robert McLane is likely to be the new American Minister to the Celestial Empire.

The Emperor of Austria has been staying with his bride elect, incognito, at Possenhofen, in Bavaria.

Cardinal Wiseman has just arrived at Marseilles, on his way to Rome.

The post of Minister in Paris has been given to Mr. John Mason, of Virginia, late Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The ex-Queen of the French is about to remove from Geneva to Nice; her royal relatives proceeding to Seville.

It is reported that Baron Bruck is to take the Ministry of Finance at Vienna, and M. Prokesch Osten be appointed his successor at Constantinople.

An active propagandism has begun in Greece and Thessaly, with the view of establishing a Greek State on the ruins of the Ottoman Empire. Emissaries are working in all parts to raise subscriptions with this view, and we have it on good authority that £30,000 have already been raised by the Philhellenists within the Ottoman Empire.

By telegraphic despatch from Turin, of Thursday's date, it appears "the King has replied to the attack upon Count Cavour, by giving him the energetic and popular Liberal, M. Rattazzi, as a colleague. It was the election of this gentleman as President of the Chamber of Deputies which twelve months ago in-

duced the retirement of M. d'Azeglio, and brought Count Cavour into power." M. Rattazzi takes the Ministry of Justice, *vice* Buoncompagni.

According to the Vienna correspondent of the *Times* four men were recently arrested in the Tyrol, and papers taken from them which disclosed a vast conspiracy for a simultaneous rising in Italy, Hungary, Sardinia, and France. It is stated that in consequence of these disclosures, arrests have been made in France, Sardinia, and Milan. It is alleged that some 2,000 persons have been compromised by these alleged disclosures. These reports of conspiracy, especially of one so bungling as this, appear too often to be credited.

Letters just received from Madagascar (says the *Leeds Mercury*) contain somewhat chequered news. Messrs. Ellis and Cameron, the agents of the London Missionary Society, have returned from Madagascar to the Mauritius. There was every reason to anticipate the re-opening of British trade with the former island within a few weeks of the date of these advices. Both the Prince of Madagascar and his wife are, it seems, avowed and consistent Christians; but the influence of the former is considerably lessened by that of his cousin, who is mortally opposed to him, and who is also strong in the Council, which is the second power in the country. It is said that this heathen prince was nominated by the late King Radama as his successor. These are all the particulars which have transpired. On the whole, we trust they may be regarded as wearing an encouraging aspect.

ASSIZE AND POLICE CASES.

Two cases of wife murder have been tried at the late session of the Central Criminal Court—that of Mobbs, and of Hayes.

The prisoner Mobbs lived in Enoch-court, White-chapel. The neighbours were the principal witnesses. They deposed to his wife taking refuge, on the 23rd of August, in the room of a fellow-lodger, from her tipsy and brutal husband. The same night she again fled from her wretched home, and sat up all night with Julia Angling, a poor sack-maker. Her husband fetched her next morning. Mrs. Mobbs had no sooner reached her room, than screams were heard; she then appeared at the window, and asked Julia Angling to satisfy her husband that she had not been out all night with a policeman. The witnesses ran up to the door; they could not open it; a child was heard to cry, "Oh, mother, mother!" then a heavy weight was moved from the door on the inside; and Mrs. Mobbs, with hair hanging down, and a bleeding throat, ran out into the court. She was taken to the hospital, and died. John Featherstone, a policeman, went into the room, and found Mobbs lying on the floor with his throat cut, but still living. The policeman found a whetstone recently used, and Mobbs confessed that he had whetted the knife before he cut his wife's throat. The jury unhesitatingly found the prisoner "Guilty;" and Mr. Justice Cresswell, with due solemnity, passed sentence of death.

The circumstances of the Hayes case—the beating of his wife through Clare Market—and the discovery of her almost breathless body by the police—need not be repeated. The jury found a verdict of "Manslaughter," and the prisoner was sentenced to transportation for life.

The same verdict was found against two omnibus-drivers, who, in racing, killed the keeper of an oyster-stall in Regent-street. There was no doubt that the men were racing in the most reckless way. Each was sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

The bank-note forger, Mason, pleaded guilty to the charge. He had been for a considerable time engaged in such transactions, but entreated the Court to deal mercifully with him, declaring that he had always viewed crime with "high disgust." He was sentenced to be transported for twenty years.

Mr. Abrahams, the surveyor, was arraigned on the coroner's indictment, for the manslaughter of the persons killed by the falling house in the Strand. Mr. Abrahams was accompanied by a great number of private and professional friends, including the Solicitor-General and Sir Charles Barry. The Attorney-General appeared for the defence. The counsel for the prosecution (Mr. Ryland) declined to offer evidence, believing that he could not support the charges preferred. Mr. Justice Cresswell concurred in that opinion; and a verdict of "not guilty" was taken.

The next case tried was that of the engine-driver and fireman of the Northern Railway, charged with having caused the Hornsey accident—legally a "misdemeanour." The judge ruled that as there was no proof of "wilfully doing an act to endanger the lives of passengers," this Court had no jurisdiction. The jury, therefore, returned a verdict of "not guilty."

Hamilton, the surgeon, of King William-street, has been found guilty of a common assault upon the young woman, who alleged against him a much more serious offence. Sentence:—Twelve months' imprisonment.

Wade Martin Meara, clerk, pleaded guilty to the charge of circulating slanders on the Hon. C. Berkeley, and was discharged on entering into recognizances.

Court, Personal, and Political News.

The Court remains at Windsor; and the Queen and Prince Albert are much engaged in entertaining the King of the Belgians and his family. On Friday, the Queen presided over a Chapter of the Order of the Thistle. The Knights present were Prince Albert, the Earl of Aberdeen, the Earl of Mansfield, and the Earl of Elgin. With due ceremony, the Earl of Hadington, the Duke of Atholl, and Lord Panmure, were severally elected Knights, and invested with the insignia of the order. Amongst the guests at the Castle

have been Mr. Gladstone, the Belgian and Austrian Ministers, the Duke of Cambridge, Earl Granville, and Viscount Hardinge. There was a grand dinner at the Castle on Saturday.

The Duchess of Gloucester, now in her 78th year, is ill at her town residence with a troublesome cough, which has hitherto baffled the skill of her medical attendants. The Queen paid her a visit on Thursday last.

The vacancy on the Scotch Bench, caused by the death of Lord Anderson, will be filled by Mr. Inglis, the Dean of Faculty.

Some additional appointments have been made in the new Department of Science and Art in connexion with the Board of Trade. Mr. Norman M'Leod, late Assistant-Secretary to the Directors of Convict Prisons, is named Registrar; Capt. Owen, R.E., Inspector; and, in connexion with the Committee of Council on Education, Mr. J. J. Mayo, Assistant-Accountant.

The City Corporation Commission held their first meeting on Friday morning, at the official residence of the Prime Minister in Downing-street. The representatives of the public press were not admitted. The proceedings were, it is understood, of a formal nature. The Commissioners were engaged in consultation up to two o'clock, and sat again yesterday at twelve, when Mr. Acland volunteered a good deal of evidence. It is supposed they will sit every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, at twelve o'clock, for some weeks to come.

The Bishop of Norwich has been suffering from so severe an attack of illness that he has been compelled to postpone a course of confirmations for which he had made arrangements.

The Bishop of Derry and Raphoe died on Thursday at Derry. The Right Rev. Dr. Ponsonby was in his 83rd year. On the 3rd of July he fell down stairs, and he gradually sank under weight of years and extreme debility. The income of the see was formerly very large, but the late bishop, on his appointment, consented to a material curtailment; and it is understood that it is to be reduced to £6,000 per annum, in accordance with the provisions of the Church Temporalities Act. The Right Rev. Dr. Higgin, who is generally popular with all parties, in and out of the Church, and who recently succeeded Archbishop Whately as one of the Commissioners at the National Education Board, is mentioned as his successor.

The venerable Lord Cloncurry died on Friday night at Blackrock. He is succeeded in his title and extensive estates by his eldest son, the Hon. Edward Lawless, now Lord Cloncurry, whose popularity as a resident country gentleman is little, if at all, inferior to that which had been awarded by all parties to his lamented relative.

In some correspondence which has passed between Lord Palmerston and Mr. Stanley, the Home Secretary has promised to introduce a bill in reference to the ancient burial-places in Ireland.

The late residence of the Duke of Buckingham, in Pall Mall, has been let to the Carlton Club for £1,800, till Midsummer, 1855. The tenancy of Buckingham House by the club will be during the alterations which are to be made in their own building.

It appears from a Parliamentary paper recently printed that, in the year ended the 5th of January last, the allowances to the several branches of the Royal family amounted to £152,353.

A permanent testimonial to the late Mr. Simeon is about to be erected in Cambridge, in the shape of a marble bust, which is to be offered to the Senate, with a view to its being placed in the University library.

It is stated that the result of this year's revision of the South Lancashire register will be a gain to the Liberal interest of from 1,500 to 2,000 voters.

There is likely to be a vigorous contest for the vacant seat at Salisbury. A meeting of the electors of Salisbury was held on Thursday, with a view to obtain from the candidates at the coming election a promise to support the ballot in the House of Commons. A deputation from the Ballot Society of London was present, and strong resolutions were adopted on the subject.

Parliament is prorogued to Nov. 29.

Literature.

The Three Presidencies of India: a History of the Rise and Progress of the British Indian Possessions, from the Earliest Records to the Present Time. With an Account of their Government, Religion, Manners, Customs, &c. &c. By JOHN CAPPER, F.R.A.S., late Editor of the *Ceylon Examiner*. Illustrated by numerous Engravings, and a Map by Wyld. London: Ingram, Cooke, and Co, Strand.

ALTHOUGH the immediate interest of the public in Indian affairs has somewhat abated, with the close of the late debates in Parliament, it cannot be that any work which ably puts forward, "not merely such facts as bear on the political phase of the subject, but also a faithful picture, social and industrial, of the many races composing the people of British India," will prove unacceptable to either the commercial or political classes who still look with no great satisfaction on the condition of our Eastern empire, and the recent legislation upon its government. The objects of this volume are indicated in the words we have quoted; and the capabilities of its author for the task have been

developed by a residence of many years in the East, by a long connexion with the Indian press, and by such acquaintance with residents and traders in the three Presidencies, as has taught him the "right names" of Indian things, and emboldened him to use those names in a free and firm discussion of the rights and interests of our fellow-subjects on the continent of India.

A heavier bill of indictment against the Indian Government has never been presented, than this book, notwithstanding the brevity with which it necessarily treats each point, will be found to contain; and Mr. Capper has taken care that his statements shall be supported by authorities that leave no possibility of successfully controverting them. Nor can any one, as he reads the descriptive and statistical particulars of this vast empire,—

"The greater portion of which has been in our possession for three-quarters of a century; whose commerce has remained stationary during the last eight or nine years; whose inhabitants pay, in taxes, half as much as is collected in Great Britain and Ireland, and yet annually consume no more than one shilling's worth of British goods per head, or one-fourteenth part of the value taken by the inhabitants of Chili and La Plata; whose entire roads receive no greater outlay than is spent upon the streets and highways of one of our large towns; whose railroads, under the fostering care of the Court of Directors, have progressed at the rate of fifteen miles in fifteen years;"—

—none, we say, can fail to see, that it is needful to enlarge and enlighten public opinion on this question, and that the demand for changes—"great and momentous changes," should not for a day be relaxed, merely because "the solemn farce" (as the author calls it) of inquiry and new legislation has just been gone through in this country.

Mr. Capper commences his interesting volume with an Introductory Sketch of the Natural History of British India. He then proceeds to the Political History, under three divisions:—the Hindoo period, comprising the era of fable, the early native dynasties, the Arab and Tartar invasions, and the final settlement of the Mahomedans in India;—the Mahomedan period, from Sultan Mahmood (A.D. 1022) to the fall of the Tartar dynasty;—and the European period, commencing with the first permanent settlement of the British in India, and extending to the late Burmese war and annexation of Pegu. Another division of the work, describes the local governments of the country, from the Hindoo period to the present time; and the fiscal systems, ancient and modern, and their effects on the industry of the people. If the historical portion is an awful story of gigantic wrong, this pursues that story into all the details of systems so impolitic, oppressive, and ruinous, that they have made the British occupation of India a series of cruelties and crying iniquities.

In the third part, entitled "Physical," Mr. Capper collects abundant materials, from numerous and authentic sources, and adds to them the fruits of his own observations, on the Agriculture of the Hindoos, and the application of European skill and capital to the cultivation of Indian products. The chapter on "the Cotton Industry of India,—its history, extent, and prospects," will be read with great interest, notwithstanding the extent and frequency with which the matter has been treated of by previous writers. After speaking of India as the birth-place of cotton-cultivation and cotton-manufacture, and describing the varieties of the Indian species of the plant, he enters into the history and statistics of its cultivation, and discusses the requisite conditions of its improvement and increase. But there is a gloomy present prospect unfolded, in the following consideration of the causes of the comparative failure in the production of this article.

COTTON—CAPITAL—AND ROADS.

"Foremost among these are undoubtedly the almost total absence of roads and canals through the heart of India; absence of interest in the experiment on the part of the ryots; and lastly, want of all security for the investment of European capital in the cotton-trade of the interior.—The first of these, although it might be supposed not to affect the produce of some of the cotton districts which are situated along the sea-board, has, nevertheless, a very material influence on the crops of these countries; but still more so in those more distant and extensive districts which furnish large quantities of exportable and locally consumed cotton. In the countries of Central India, not less than in those to the north and north-west, owing to the absence of all roads for vehicles, the ordinary means of conveyance is by pack-bullocks, who in vast droves track their slow and weary way across sandy, sterile tracts, through wild jungle-paths, and over steep ghauts, for hundreds of miles. To bring the cotton of Berar alone to Bombay, it is computed that the services of 180,000 head of cattle are required; and when we remember that their journey is for a great dis-

tance performed through districts in which both water and fodder are always scarce, it will not be surprising that the utmost uncertainty prevails as to the receipt of crops at the ports of shipment. This primitive mode of conveyance is not only the most tedious, but the most costly of any in existence; yet by far the greater part of British India possesses no roads which will allow of the employment of carts. It is in vain that British enterprise and capital are brought to bear upon the great experiment of cotton, so long as the universal cry for roads is disregarded. British merchants have been found with energy sufficient to brave the difficulties attending the establishment of agencies in the interior; but their ardour is damped, their efforts thwarted, and their capital jeopardised, by the one great crying evil, the utter absence of roads available for carriages.

"The want of roads is scarcely of such serious moment as the insecurity attaching to all advances made by the English dealers. It has been the profession of the government to desire that British merchants should open up the country by the establishment of agencies for the purchase of cotton in various districts; yet when the uncertainties and procrastination of the local courts of justice were pointed out, and a request made that private capitalists should be allowed to avail themselves of the summary and only effectual process for recovery of advances which was pursued by the government collectors under similar circumstances, the authorities consistently with the redtapism which pervades the whole system, declined to accede to so reasonable a request.

"Looking at all the facts that have been thrown together in this chapter, we find the great cotton question to stand thus. British India, although admitted to be capable of supplying England with the whole of her cotton, furnishes but one-eighth of her imports of that article, the shipments of Indian cotton to this country in 1847 and 1848 being actually less than they had been at four previous dates; whilst those of 1845 and 1846 were considerably below the exports of the five previous years. The quality of the article, with a few solitary exceptions, varies in no respect from that of fifty years since. English capital and skill have been in vain introduced into the interior, where Government, whilst professing a desire to assist, has in reality refused all aid. The Honourable Company have, during a period of about seventy years, introduced a dozen American planters, a score of ploughs, a few hundred bushels of seed, opened a model-farm or two, offered some paltry premiums, and lately despatched two hundred cotton-gins for distribution amongst two millions of cultivators; and when all these gigantic efforts, paraded through whole hecatombs of despatches, that would supply ample fuel for a hundred suttees,—when these have all failed, the red-tapists protest that all has been done that can be done! It does not appear to have occurred to the rulers of India, that the same means which have so completely changed the aspect and destinies of other countries, might not have been without influence in this tax-devoured land; that what saw-gins, and ploughs, and model farms, failed to achieve, might peradventure have been accomplished by purifying the courts of law and making a few roads. . . . One brief emphatic order, meant for obedience, which said, 'Let there be roads,' would have changed the face of the country, ameliorated the condition of the people, and made the cotton trade of India with Europe a splendid fact, instead of a disgraceful failure."

From what is said in this extract it will be presumed that there is a rare catalogue of neglects, mismanagements, and injurious procrastinations, in the chapter on "Roads, Rivers, and Railways." And, verily, it is so;—but we have no space for instances. In other chapters, some very interesting matter is furnished on the production of Silk, Opium, and Tea; also on the manufactures of India; and on native art and science. "A Commercial History of the three Presidencies" contains a series of facts and statistics which shames the British name, and which the mercantile community ought to read, ponder, and argue from.

In the last section of the work, Mr. Capper takes up what he calls the "Moral" aspects of India,—its language and literature, state of religion and education, the administration of justice, and the constitution and morality of the Indian "public." Valuable as is the information brought together, and suggestive as are the author's expositions and comments thereon, we must pass over all topics but the last. And instead of vague statements or controvertible opinions, we select a few facts, which imply more than they expressly tell, and show the existence of appalling disease at the very heart of Indian society.

PUBLIC MORALITY IN INDIA.

"What must be the state of society in India when we find the majority of the officers of the highest judicial tribunal in the country lending themselves to the most glaring improprieties, and in not a few cases to the most scandalous and heartless transactions? First, in the list of these official defalcations is the late Registrar and Official Administrator and Trustee of the Court, who, after becoming involved in a variety of joint-stock gambling, wound up by resigning his office, leaving his accounts many months in arrears, and his cash-balance deficient to the extent of £70,000. Next comes the Official Assignee and Receiver of the Court, who closely followed in the financial steps of his brother officer: he too resigned, leaving a deficiency of £50,000: *this man is still retained in active employment by the Court.* The Taxing Officer of this tribunal took the benefit of the Insolvent Act in 1847; whilst the Master in Equity, and the Prothonotary of the Court, were both constantly occupied in bank matters and speculations to a great extent, and with ruinous results, in bank shares.—The string of disclosures made before the Chief Justice relative to some of these transactions were so glaringly iniquitous, that, shocked beyond even the endurance of a Calcutta judge, he indignantly expressed a wish that a retrospective law

could be passed to insure the punishment of these guilty men. This was, however, but a single opinion; 'the voice of one crying in the wilderness' fell not more dead and unheeded in the stones and sands of the desert places, than did this solitary, indignant protest of an upright, conscientious judge, go forth against the cold, stony hearts of the European community of Calcutta. The misdoers stood unabashed before their brethren, for their name was 'legion'; they went about, and were greeted with smiles and open houses. They continued to give good dinners, and to receive invitations in return; the *élite* of the Indian world threw wide their portals to do honour to them; and we even find these men seated high up at the table of the Governor-general. Far and wide this crying evil has spread [i.e., the gambling banking-system]; the poison tree has taken deep root in the social soil, and years must elapse before even the most vigorous and courageous government can hope to eradicate the noxious weed."

It will be seen that Mr. Capper's book is well suited in character to the purposes of our Indian reformers; and its cheapness, elegance, and profuse and pleasing illustrations, further adapt it to the extensive popular circulation which they must desire for such a work. It is also an excellent History and Survey of British India, apart from its special views of social and political affairs. It is written in a strong and lively manner, that soon takes, and long holds, the reader. It is a great addition to the "Illustrated London Library."

Brittany and the Chase; with Hints on French Affairs.
By I. HOPE. (Traveller's Library, 49.) London: Longman and Co., Paternoster-row.

In this racy little book, which abounds in animal spirits, good humour, and good sense, Mr. Hope narrates the experiences of an enthusiastic sportsman in Brittany; with his notions about the country, the inhabitants, and the French people generally, their customs, their peculiarities, and their antipathies. There is little matter for criticism,—though exception might be taken to some of the scattered "hints on French affairs," or to the petty swearing that occurs here and there,—but there is something quotable on almost every page, in the shape of amusing adventure, or vivacious and even brilliant talk about men, things, and events. The book is one that must speak for itself. We may have a few readers who will like to compare—

ENGLISH AND FRENCH SPORTSMEN.

"If anyone doubts whether the love of sporting is peculiar to certain races, let him look at the difference between the French and English in this respect, separated as they are by some twenty miles only. Nature has not been bountiful to our vivacious neighbours in sporting genius. With us the word 'sporting' well represents the thing meant; it is a diversion, a play, as it were an offshoot of our nature. In France, the word is *chasser*, to drive away,—not a term of *love*, but making out game to be an intruder. But in fact the Frenchman's inferiority is great:—no resolute following of the object with quiet and skill, and a firm determination to get at it, enjoying meanwhile the free air of the hill-side, the open scenery, the charms of the dell or glade; but all noise and bluster, talking of what he has done and will do, now singing some hoarse refrain, now bawling to the dogs, or diverging to rest, or light the eternal pipe. But to say no more than a sportsman with an eternal pipe! can the two exist together? Their shouting to the dogs is a continued annoyance, enough to rouse the game even out of the game-bag. Of course birds and beasts have eyes and ears, and just take the hint and make themselves scarce, and the draw or hesitating point ends only in showing that they are gone. When I discovered this and avoided shouting with them, I soon found the advantages in my own more contented state of mind, the improved working of my dogs, and the better condition of my game-bag. Your true Frenchman has slight relish for scenery or the country. He is a town animal, gregarious and garrulous. . . . I used to shoot occasionally with a neighbour, who was called 'un très-fort chasseur.' The previous day he would me to fix all about it, as a solemn affair. From his manner, you would think he was going to sign the death-warrant of all the *gibier* in the country. Plans were discussed, rejected, and adopted; guns handled, dogs loudly exhorted, men engaged to beat and carry game, meat and drink provided, the various localities compared, and one finally selected where the game was *en masse*. And here let me explain this word. An English mind at once thinks of the thickly-peopled preserve, with a spring-cart and pony to carry the spoil. But he would be quite at fault here. Rendered in plain words, *beaucoup* means 'one,' a *masse* 'two,' and the superlative, *une confusion*, 'three.' I have found this by experience. I once went to a mountain where was 'une confusion parfaite de lièvres,' as I was told. I imagined, from the term used, that they would literally be running over and knocking against each other, leaping into one's bag as a place of refuge; but I found *three* only! So are most French phrases,—*charmant* meaning 'pretty tolerable'; *superbe* 'middling'; *ravissant* 'rather good'; and so on. . . . The end of all was, that, the game being thin, my neighbour took to shooting blackbirds, and we parted; and in the evening joined and returned home: I with two brace of birds and a hare; and he with a bird, three blackbirds, and a thrush, but full of ardour, and exclaiming about the *bonne chasse* we had had. The single bird would grow into a hare on the morrow, and two brace the next day, and so go on like Newton's law, increasing with the square of distance."

We leave the "sport," for an extract of another kind;—its facts were gathered from a M. Dornout, who had held a captaincy in

THE "GARDE MOBILE."

"What a singular force was this Garde Mobile! but what a clever idea it was that organized it; and whether it arose with Lamartine or Lagrange is immaterial to us. All men who know anything about Paris must know that celebrated class of society called the *gamin*. The Paris *gamin*

answers to the London scamp, only that it is a juvenile—a sucking scamp. In numbers it is countless, receiving daily recruits from all sides—children abandoned by their parents, youthful, unfledged jail-birds—all thrown upon their wits to find a living, and their wits, therefore, speedily becoming of the sharpest. Full of spirit and knavery, hungry and naked, they have always been the foremost in civil commotions, worming themselves into holes where an able bodied man would stick fast—the very ferrets of a revolution. It was really a bright thought which at once converted them into the defenders of order; let us give its due to the author of it. So they were formed into a Garde Mobile. . . . Truly an exceptional force altogether, a veritable normal force—outwardly not a force at all, but in reality animated by the impetuous boiling ardour of La Jeune France, and therefore doing miracles. Uniform they had none; many lacked shoes; and few lacked rags and tatters. Guiltless were they of discipline or manoeuvre. Of all sizes were they, from four feet upwards, many of them only knowing a gun by sight; yet did they perform feats on which men looked with astonishment. . . . The three days of peace arrived—those bloody days which tried men's mettle—and then these little breechless [sic] blackguards showed what they were made of. . . . They regarded the whole affair as a lark, as good fun; and not the death of their comrades, the streets burdened with corpses, and streaming with blood, could destroy this idea. For four or five days did they bivouac in the open air, taking only the little nourishment they could get; but what were the odds to them, who had done so all their miserable lives, always starving and without a home? Bad as it might seem to others, they had, nevertheless, never lived so well before; and doubtless, the notion of fighting for the law—they, the pickpockets, the rogues in grain—must have tickled and amused them amazingly. But their spirit was admirable. They were ordered to attack a barricade in the Fanbourg St. Antoine from which a battalion of the National Guard had just been repulsed. 'Allons, mes enfants—en avant!' and up the street they ran, laughing and singing, in the face of a rattling fire which killed numbers; and when arrived at the huge mass of stone, instead of attempting to take it in flank or rear, he said they climbed and scrambled up the face of it like so many rabbits. They seemed unable to see the danger of it; and this was especially the case with the youngest. At another time they were waiting the signal to attack, when, on a sudden, two lads started out of the ranks and made straight for the insurgent flag which floated on an opposing barricade. In vain did the officers try to recall them, and in vain did the defenders of the barricade fire on them; they reached the flag, and quarrelled for its possession, but were unable to remove it. While disputing, a shot broke the flag-staff; on which one picked up the flag, wrapped it round his shoulders, and, so enveloped, regained his company, his companion being left behind him dead. It appeared that these youngsters had made a bet as to who should get the flag, and thus had started for it without orders. Many were too small to carry guns, and had cavalry pistols; and, he told me, they would steal close to their object, and knock a man over with as much pleasure as if he had been a blackbird, coming back laughing and in great glee. As affairs grew settled, the government disbanded some, and sent others to Algiers, and numbers having been destroyed, the *class gamin* has been greatly reduced. But they were gallant little chaps, and merited better treatment than they received."

We will leave it to the reader to moralize upon the above,—as he may do, easily and perhaps profitably, if so inclined. We need not say that Mr. Hope's notes are cleverly written, and of an interesting sort; but may add an assurance that their something more than hundred pages contain plenty more such matter as we have given examples of, with other of still different varieties.

The Great Gold Fields: A Pedestrian Tour through the first discovered Gold District of New South Wales, in the months of October and November, 1852. By ANGUS MACKAY. Sydney: W. R. Piddington.

THIS is a piece of Australian literature by the special reporter of "The Empire," a daily journal published in the colony. A few months ago, it would have induced us to make considerable extracts; but the *gold fields* have been pretty extensively described now, and the subject lacks interest. Mr. Mackay's pamphlet is crammed with facts, expresses the views of an intelligent man, and is worth a great deal to those who want exact information that may be depended on. We do not know whether it is to be obtained in London.

Politics Made Easy for Young Men; or Political Training, to make their lives and liberties safe, and their country prosperous and happy. By JOSEPH BENTLEY. London: W. C. Stevenson, 13, Paternoster-row.

WITH the wise and earnest spirit of this little book we thoroughly sympathize; but from many of its detailed views we wholly dissent. One of its ideas, that the Bible is the best repository of social truths, and the mightiest and most beneficent power in shaping the character and destinies of nations, we are glad to see so fully and heartily enforced. To the author's views on the Education question we greatly demur; and to his plea for a national provision for imparting it, answer by a direct and decided negative. The book wants much to be a comprehensive outline of Politics; and is by no means strong enough in thought, or broad enough in conception, to satisfy our notion of a book on such a subject for young men.

Village Sermons. By the Rev. J. W. COLENSO, D.D. Cambridge: Macmillan and Co. London: George Bell, Fleet-street.

DR. COLENSO is the newly-appointed Bishop of Natal. Of Colonial Bishops we have an opinion which does not allow us to rejoice in such an appointment, or to offer congratulations to the party appointed. But we can at least rejoice that such a man, with the robust faith, fine feeling, and deep purpose, displayed in this small volume, is the missionary-bishop of a new and important colony; and we hope that Dr. Colenso will

hold so firmly and develop so consistently the principles which, judging from the dedication of these discourses, we are willing to attribute to him, that he may become the friend and helper of all earnest Christian labourers in the colony to which he goes, and not the exclusive, arrogant antagonist of any, because they "follow not with" him in the Church of England, as other Colonial Bishops have been.

The Sermons themselves are, as he says, "of the plainest kind;" they were "preached to a small rural congregation;" and are now published as a pastor's parting memorial to the people he leaves behind. In manner they are familiar and yet dignified; and in doctrine, set forth the first and chief principles of the gospel,—although occasionally the pure light of those principles is a little dimmed or discoloured, as we think, by the medium of ecclesiasticism through which it passes. It is to the dedicatory letter to the Rev. Professor Maurice, of King's College, that the general public will turn with most interest; and thereby they may learn something of the character and views of the author. Mr. Maurice is thus addressed:—

"It is from you, I believe, more than any other living author, that we have learned to make the coming of the Eternal Son of God into our nature, the centre of all our thoughts and hopes—the source of abiding strength and consolation, in our own life-struggle, and in all our intercourse and labours with our fellow-men. It is from you we have learned to treat as living realities, instead of mere empty formulae, the declarations of God's Word, that God was in CHRIST, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them—that 'He is the Propitiation for the sins of the whole world.' You have taught us that we may believe, and act daily in the belief, that we are not an accursed, but a redeemed race—that we have all One Merciful Father in Heaven—that he has Love for us all, for the poor dark heathens of Africa, as well as for the far more highly privileged, and, therefore, also far more awfully accountable Christians of England—that we all belong, not to the Devil, but to CHRIST, though we are not all yet baptized into Him. You have led us to ascribe every good thought, that has ever stirred our hearts and the hearts of our fellow-men, to the teaching of that One Good Spirit, the Spirit of the Father and the Son, Who giveth Life to our Spirits, and bringeth Light to all from Him, 'The True Light, Which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.' You have instructed us how to realize the great fact, that 'as in Adam all died, so in CHRIST all have been made alive'—that we are not merely what we are by nature, fallen, miserable, guilty creatures, 'children of wrath,' but raised again in CHRIST by a second spiritual birth, of which the sign and seal is given us in our baptism, wherein we are adopted as the Sons of God, and made the children of His Grace. You, more than any other, have brought these Great Truths of God's Book to our remembrance—have brought them home to our hearts.—In the strength of this precious Faith, I shall go, if God permit and enable me, to engage in the work to which it has pleased Him to call me. But I could not deny myself the gratification of thus expressing, however feebly, the debt of gratitude I owe you, and of asking, what I am sure you will not withhold from me, in my labours in a distant land, a share in your sympathy and prayers."

We have extracted this passage—thereby rendering our notice of this little book disproportionate to its actual claims on us—partly because it faithfully describes Mr. Maurice's characteristic views, and partly because we believe many others besides Dr. Colenso owe this debt to Mr. Maurice. Many would be found to acknowledge that by him they have been raised from mere empty church-ritualism, or from—something as empty quite—cold, rational theologism; and have been quickened to the perception and embrace of deeply spiritual views of the Gospel of Christ. What is not the value of such an influence in the Church of England? If we ourselves cannot say we owe as much to Mr. Maurice, and even think that all the positive truth he has taught has been substantially possessed long since by the more thoughtful and spiritual of Evangelical Christians,—although not, as we have been assured, by those of the ordinary type of Evangelicals in the Established Church,—we yet recognise the adaptedness and power of a teacher of his own peculiar character, to the many who have dropped through popular Evangelicism to Unbelief, and to multitudes who have been "born again" to religious systems only, and not to religious Life.*

Facts and Facets.

The Cambridge watch committee will allow no man to be a constable who has given or received a bribe in elections.

There are no fewer than 131 applications to be made in Michaelmas term by persons who have served their articles and passed their examination, to be admitted attorneys of the superior courts.

A Mechanics' Institution is being established at Cape Town.

Last year public justice cost the country £2,104,196, of which £645,243 was for courts of justice, £891,542, for police and criminal prosecution, and £567,411 for correction.

The new Record Repository is nearly complete. In the year ended the 5th of January, £6,800 was allowed for it out of the public money.

* Since the above was written, we have heard that Mr. Maurice has been rather unceremoniously expelled from the divinity chair at King's College, by the Council of that institution. The heretical opinions fixed on for the purpose of this expulsion relate to the subject of Future Punishment. We have for some time had a notice of Mr. Maurice's "Theological Essays" in preparation, but shall now defer its appearance until the publication of the Correspondence between him and the Council, which we understand will immediately be put to press.

The contractors of the Paisley Gas Works commemorated the completion of the new works on Tuesday evening by entertaining upwards of 160 gentlemen within the gasometer, which was suitably fitted up for the occasion.

In a very short time the telegraph will be carried across the Forth and Tay.

A work by Madame Lefarge, entitled "Henres de Prison" ("Prison Hours"), has just appeared in Paris. It is said to contain some very interesting anecdotes.

A correspondent of the *Western Times* says that at Cambridge there are from 20 to 25 young collegians who meet at the house of the Catholic priest.

The late General Sir Charles Napier's property has been estimated for stamp duty at £200,000.—*United Service Gazette*.

"It will be recorded," says the *Gateshead Observer*, "among the memorabilia of the epidemic of 1853, that the three months within which it occurred yielded but four cases and four prisoners for Newcastle quarter-sessions."

An "Anti-marrying-any-young-lady-who-goes-a-shopping-after-eight-o'clock Society" has been established in Rochdale, and the success of the society is said to have "exceeded the most sanguine expectations of the projectors."

The Rev. Messrs. Fletcher and Poore intend to carry with them an iron chapel to South Australia, fitted with every accommodation for worship, as well as several houses. The chapel, we believe, will cost £1,000.

From a case which has been tried in the Westminster County Court, it would seem that if the payment of a Reform Club debenture be resisted, such an instrument is utterly useless to the holder.

Owing to the economical cost of glass, the directors of the Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Dudley, and other railways centering in Birmingham, project a great station in New-street, constructed of fluted glass; and the same covering is to be generally adopted in the railway stations between Madrid and Barcelona.

When the Emperor of Russia refused the cushion offered to him at Olmutz, to kneel on at the religious service, he said, "I am dust, like other men, and I shall return to dust. Before God and the church all men are equal."

Mr. Gladstone received, the other day, carefully packed in an oaken box, and nicely enveloped in many folds of tissue paper, a massive handsome silver poker. It bore on the square end this inscription:—"Presented to stir the minister to stir himself to enable the country to stir a cheaper coal."

A New York correspondent gives a report of a new American printing-press, which will print from uncut paper, rolling from a cylinder, cutting and folding with perfect regularity, 30,000 copies each hour; the inventor declaring his ability to print one mile of paper as fast as a locomotive can run on a railway.

The *Times* newspaper is now stamped whilst being printed. The stamp die is fixed in the form to the left of the title, and over the centre of the first column. The manager must make affidavit as to the number printed daily.

A statement has been made, to the effect that M. Mazzini entered Italy a few months ago, in the petticoats and "front" of an old woman, the policemen taking off their hats and paying compliments, while a poor English consumptive parson in search of health was marched off between two Chasseurs, as if he had been a pickpocket.

The recent election in California brought to light such delectable localities as Whisky Creek, Jackass Gulch, Humber City, One Horse Town, One Mule Town, Drunkard's Bar, Murderer's Bar, Shirt Tail Canon, Lower Humber, Negro-hill, Fiddletown, Coon Hollow, Jay Hawk, Condemned Bar, Grizzly Flat, Musquito Canon, Poverty Bar, Mule Canon, Greenhorn, Mugginsville, Mad Muletown, Sucker Flat, Rattlesnake Bar, Yankee Jim's, Peppermint Bar, Mad Canon, Humber, Canon, Rough and Ready, French Coral, &c.

At a late burial at Carlisle, the remains of a man who was hung were disturbed, and the grave-digger indulged the morbid curiosity of the crowd by sharing amongst them a number of metal buttons, rendered precious from the fact of their having been once attached to a murderer's coat!

At Bourn (Lincolnshire) a few nights since, two elephants, part of Cooke's troupe, broke open the door of the place in which they were confined, and took a walk together round the town, meeting, in their "nocturnal perambulations," with some who, had they retired to rest before the bell tolled the hour of twelve, might have spared themselves the trouble of coming suddenly upon two such formidable animals.

At Logan, N.B., the seat of Colonel McDowall, there is a pond cut out of the natural rock, which is accessible by steps; and in this pond, to which the tide has regular entrance, various fishes, among others, cods and ling, are kept. They are submitted to the care of an old woman, whose voice seems to be familiar to the fishes. "No sooner," says Mr. Pettigrew, in the *Literary Gazette*, "is her voice heard than the head of numerous fish may be seen projected from the surface of the water, and they eagerly proceed to the side of the pond, there to receive from the hands of their keeper sustenance in the form of limpets, which are most eagerly seized and rapidly swallowed. This docility in the obtaining of food is, however, not the most remarkable circumstance connected with their habitation here, for so thoroughly domesticated are they by this attention to their wants, that they readily permit themselves to be taken out of the water, fondled and shook about, apparently to the great satisfaction of the animal."

A patent has been taken out by a French gentleman for the application of electricity in the process of weaving silk and other fabrics, which may prove a great saving where the pattern is of an elaborate character. The treadle of the weaver lifts the thread and connects the extremity of each by means of copper wire, with a current of electricity, either positive or negative at will, and the result is, that some of the threads remain suspended, and others descend, according as the current is directed. To direct the electricity, a series of points are arranged in a line like the teeth of a comb, each point communicating with an electro-magnet. The weaver will pass underneath these points the design, traced in varnish on a cylinder or on a metallic leaf in communication with the battery. The current will pass only where the varnish is wanting, and the corresponding threads will remain suspended, by that means reproducing the design.

BIRTHS.

October 25, at Langley Park, the Marchioness of Chandos, of a daughter.

October 28, at 16, William-street, Holloway, Mrs. WASHINGTON WILKS, of a daughter.

October 28, at Tortworth, Gloucestershire, the wife of Mr. E. J. SMITH, British schoolmaster, of a daughter.

October 31, at No. 3, Onslow-square, Brompton, the wife of HENRY BRINSLEY SHEKIDAN, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

October 24, at the Independent Chapel, Warwick, by the Rev. J. W. Percy, Mr. ALFRED THOMAS EDMON, of Hampton, Oxon, to Miss EMMA WATTS, of Warwick.

October 25, at the Croft Chapel, Hastings, by the Rev. W. Davis, Mr. HENRY WEBBER, of Brighton, to Miss MARY ELLEN BOOTH, of St. Leonards.

October 25, at Springfield-house, Glasgow, JOHN LATHAM, Esq., to LOUISA, second daughter of S. HIGGINBOTHAM, Esq., by the Rev. S. T. Porter, of Bath-street Chapel.

October 25, at the Parish Church, Leeds, the Rev. ARTHUR JOHN EMPSON, rector of Eydun, Northamptonshire, to ANNA DELICIA, second daughter of the Rev. W. F. Hook, D.D., vicar of Leeds.

DEATHS.

September 2, at Dacca, the Rev. W. ROBINSON, Baptist Missionary, aged 70 years.

October 19, perished at sea, by the foundering of the ship "Dal-house," off Beachey Head, on their passage to Sydney, Mr. JOHN UNDERWOOD, his wife MARY ANNE, and their three children, KATHERINE, FREDERICK, and ALFRED, late of Clapham Park and Banstead, Surrey.

October 22, at the Valley, Brentwood, Mr. THOMAS PARKER, formerly of Bocking, in the 73rd year of his age.

October 22, at King's Cliffe, Northamptonshire, MILLICENT, the infant daughter of the Rev. G. AMOS, Independent Minister.

October 23, at Trowbridge, Wilts, after a protracted period of weakness and suffering, Mrs. CATHERINE GAYTON, aged 76 years.

October 23, at his residence, Stoke Newington, JOHN BURNBANK, Esq., in the 89th year of his age, universally respected and beloved.

October 23, the Rev. THOMAS TAYLOR, for nearly thirty years pastor of the Congregational church at Horton-lane, Bradford, in 1835 he resigned the pastoral office. From that period his life was one of retirement and private devotion, and for the last twelve years he was entirely confined to the house.

October 27, in New-street, Spring-gardens, at the house of her son, Sir Richard Mayne, K.C.B., Mrs. MAYNE, widow of the late Mr. JUSTICE MAYNE, of the Court of King's Bench, Ireland, in the 89th year of her age.

October 28, at Royston, MARTHA, widow of the late Mr. S. LUKE, in the 48th year of her age.

Captain Denman, who gained a name in aiding to suppress the slave-trade, is appointed to command the Queen's steam-yacht squadron.

In June, 1852, James St. Albin Quinn, a freight-collector to Messrs. Train and Co., of Liverpool, decamped with £1,300 belonging to his employers. He went to Melbourne; became a merchant, and made money. But he had been traced; a warrant was sent to Australia; he has just been brought to Liverpool, and the magistrates have committed him for trial.

Some successful experiments have just been made on the East Lancashire Railway with an improved kind of break patented by Mr. Newall. It comprises two kinds of improvements: the break itself is more effectual in arresting the train, without locking the wheels, to which there are grave objections; and by a very simple contrivance, all the breaks of a train are united, so that each person, having a break under his control, can apply the whole number. The breaks are self-acting; while they are out of use they are prevented from action by a catch, the removal of which is sufficient to bring the train to a stand. During the trial recently made it was found that a train going at the rate of twenty miles an hour could be arrested within eighty yards, and one going at forty miles an hour, down a gradient of one in thirty-eight, could be stopped within 180 yards; in both cases without a shock to the passengers.

Mr. Vincent is prosecuting a most successful tour in Scotland, everywhere gathering around him large and influential audiences. He has delivered his six lectures on the Commonwealth to large and enthusiastic audiences at Strauraer and Dunfermline, each of which manifested the most earnest sympathy with the men and principles of the Commonwealth. The course is now in progress of delivery at Langholm and Stirling, and are to be given at Paisley and Hawick during this month. He has also lectured to large meetings on the Moral and Intellectual Elevation of the People and the Questions of Social and Political Progress at Ulverstone and Carlisle on the borders, and at Alloa, Gallashiels, and Melrose, in Scotland. The Scotch people are in full sympathy with the radical and progressive views propounded by Mr. Vincent, and everywhere give him an earnest and cordial greeting.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

The English Stock Market seems to have taken a decided turn for the better. For some days prices have been rapidly advancing. Yesterday the rise was equal to one per cent. The conclusion of the armistice between the armies on the Danube, the more steady appearance of the weather, and the daily increasing supply of money, have all contributed to this result. Money has been more plentiful, and the rates rather easier. On the Continent the rates are also lower. This being the day for the half-yearly balance at the Bank of England, the transfer offices at that establishment have been shut, and it has been a close holiday at the Stock Exchange.

During the past month the range of Consols has been $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and the final result of the constant fluctuations has been to establish a rise of three quarters per cent. In the preceding month the range was $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and prices at the end, as compared with the commencement, presented a decline of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The more favourable results on the present occasion are to be attributed mainly to the confidence shown by the public in making steady purchases, against which the action of the speculators for a fall has produced no permanent effect. The imports of the precious metals into the United

CHICORY, London, Saturday, October 30,

The supplies continue to increase, and only a limited demand has been experienced, on somewhat easier terms. We have no arrivals to report from the continent, with the exception of 100 bags from Harlingen.

	Per ton.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Foreign root (d.p.)	10 0 10 10	Roasted & ground			
Harlingen.....	10 0 10 10	English.....	20 0 23 0		
English root (free)		Foreign.....	32 0 38 0		
Guernsey.....	10 0 11 0	Guernsey.....	27 10 29 0		
York.....	9 0 10 10				

WOOL, CITT, Monday, October 31.—The imports of Wool into London last week were 8,183 bales, of which 1,432 were from Port Philip, 628 from Sydney, 1,966 from the Cape of Good Hope, 1,820 from Bombay, 396 from Mogadore, 500 from South Australia, 819 from Van Diemen's Land, and the rest from New York, Germany, &c. At the public sales, the buyers have evinced no eagerness, and the biddings, therefore, have been slow. A good deal is withdrawn as the auctions progress, and the importers are rather encouraged in this course by the hope of the money market getting easier before the next sales are held. One broker offers interest at the rate of 6 per cent. for anticipations of the usual prompt of fourteen days. The attendance at times has been very limited, and not above half so numerous as upon some former occasions. Under these circumstances, it is probable the sales will close earlier than was intended.—The sale for British Wool is dull in the extreme.

PRODUCE MARKETS, MINCEING-LANE, November 1.

SUGAR.—The market has opened with a very dull appearance, and prices are again rather lower for all descriptions except good and fine grocery. 530 hhds. of West India sold, including the public sales of Barbadoes, 32s. 6d. to 38s. 6d., and Demerara, 35s. to 37s. 6d. 3,700 bags of Mauritius were offered, the importers met the market, and all sold at 6d. decline, 26s. 6d. to 35s.; 800 bags of Bengal were also offered; good Benares found buyers at last week's prices, 37s. to 38s. 6d. The refined market is rather lower; Brown Lumps, 44s.; grocery, 44s. 6d. to 46s.

COFFEE.—The only public sale to-day consisted of 250 bags of Ceylon, which were bought in above the market value. 400 bags sold by private contract at 45s.

TEA.—The market has been very firm; a fair amount of business done in medium Congou at the full prices of yesterday.

RICE.—About 8,000 bags Madras are reported sold to-day, the exact prices not stated; they were bought chiefly on speculative account.

COTTON.—200 bales sold at previous rates.

TALLOW has been dull at yesterday's prices.

SALT-PETRE.—1,800 bags were offered, for which previous prices were not bid, and they were bought in; refraction 6½ to 15½, 29s. to 30s. 6d.

In other articles no material alteration. Markets generally have been dull to-day.

COTTON,

LIVERPOOL, November 1.—The market closed heavily, without change in prices. Sales:—3,000 bales, including 500 on speculation, and comprising 230 Pernams and Maranhams at 6½d. to 7½d.; 20 Bahia, 6½d.; 30 Egyptian, 6½d. to 9½d.; 400 Surat, 2½d. to 4½d.

MANCHESTER, November 1.—The market has been quiet for years, and prices tolerably steady. In cloths there has also been a moderate demand. There is still a rather better business in light fabrics for India, but not sufficient to lessen stocks. Prices have been maintained, but manufacturers do not sell freely at the ruling quotations.

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Yours very faithfully,

Henry H. H. H.
Parsonage, St. James's, Hampstead-road.

Extract from a letter by the Rev. J. HARRIS, D.D., Author of "Mammon."

The conception and arrangement of the work are admirable; and as far as I have had an opportunity of judging, the execution of it equals the plan. I have read various parts of it attentively; and while I have not met with anything which I could wish to have been omitted, most unfeignedly can I say that I have found much calculated to inspire and sustain devotion.

J. M. Harris
Epsom.

I am enabled to speak with propriety and confidence of the real worth and admirable adaptation to usefulness of your work. I have used it much in my own family, and I can truly say that as I advance it grows in my esteem. You have rendered a most important service to Christian households by your labours, and I have no doubt that its circulation will be as extensive as your most sanguine expectations could anticipate.

J. R. Apple
Liverpool.

Letters have also been received from the following Clergymen:—Rev. W. B. COLLYER, D.D., Peckham; Rev. J. MORRISON, D.D., Chelsea; Rev. JAMES PARSONS, York; Rev. SAMUEL RANSOM, Hackney; Rev. A. THOMSON, Coldstream; &c. In addition to which, upwards of One Hundred of the most influential Clergymen of America have testified, by letter, their high commendation of the excellence and great utility of the above-named Work.

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Surry Chapel House. *J. Sherman*

On examination, I am much pleased with it ["A Guide to Family Devotion,"] and feel, when I am called to leave my family, that I leave for its use a good substitute behind me.
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Isaac Brock
Late Vicar of St. Stephen's, Coleman-street.

I feel it right to express my opinion that the plan is excellent, and that the execution of the plan is judicious, and well adapted to its purpose, as an aid to the great duty and blessing of family, conjugal, and secret worship.
Hornorton.

Agnes Smith

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The desirableness of such a publication is too obvious to need remark. Even amongst those in whose hearts the spirit of devotion is pure and ardent, a difficulty of expression, or a desire to avoid, day after day, the repetition of the same phrases while referring to common occurrences—acknowledging "every-day blessings," or praying for their daily renewal—frequently produces considerable embarrassment; while others—as, for instance, females in the absence of the head of the family—in consequence of nervousness or timidity, are prevented from leading the devotions of the household. To such persons THE ALTAR of the HOUSEHOLD will prove a valuable boon.

It will be seen that, in addition to the distinguished Editor, numerous Ministers have been engaged in the preparation of this work. This may be regarded as a guarantee for its Scriptural character, and for its acceptableness to all sections of the Christian Church—to "all who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity." At the same time this provides for a rich variety in the modes of expression, whether of adoration, thanksgiving, or petition.

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